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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Monday, August 29, 2011

As South recovers;

Irene slams New England



Some residents that chose not to leave along Bayview Avenue taunted Hurricane Irene with signs as the storm approached the region, in Coney Island, Brooklyn, N.Y. Hurricane Irene made its second landfall, this one early Sunday in southern New Jersey, as the storm continued its relentless push toward New York City.

(Robert Stolarik/The New York Times)

Stuart Emmrich
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Kim Severson reported from Wilmington, N.C., Dan Barry from New York and Campbell Robertson from Cointjock, N.C. Reporting was contributed by Brian Stelter from Nags Head, N.C., Stuart Emmrich and Shaila De-wan from New York, Abby Goodnough from Boston, and Sabrina Tavernise and

Eric Lipton from Washington.

Having cut a path of destruction from the Outer Banks of North Carolina to the eastern tip of Long Island that killed at least 16 people and caused an unprecedented shutdown of the transit systems in Washington, Philadelphia, Boston and New York, Tropical Storm Irene quickly lost her

ferocity as she moved into New England on Sunday, leaving blue skies and an army of clean-up crews in her wake.

Although downgraded from a hurricane at around 9 a.m., Irene still wreaked havoc along the Eastern seaboard: Rail and airline service in the Northeast remained paralyzed, and hundreds of thousands of

people were without power. But the storm ended up being nowhere near the catastrophe that many people had feared.

However, President Barack Obama, in a televised address from the Rose Garden at around 5 p.m., cautioned, "This is not over." Irene, he said, remains a "dangerous" storm, even in its weakened state, and

many communities would see flooding in the days ahead.

Also at the news conference was Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, who pledged that the federal government will assist states responding to or recovering from Hurricane Irene.

Continued on Page 2



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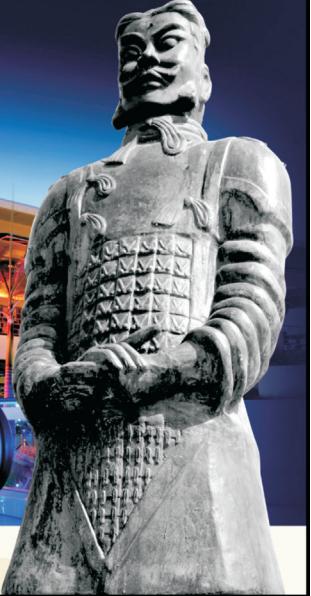
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Irene slams New England

Continued from Front

“I urge all Americans to take prudent steps to stay safe,” she said.

The hardest-hit major city appeared to be Philadelphia. Mark McDonald, spokesman for Mayor, Michael Nutter, said water levels in the city, which lies between the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers, were 15 feet above normal in some areas and were not expected to stop rising until Sunday afternoon. The waters were approaching the highest level ever recorded – 17 feet in 1869, he said.

“There are many streams and creeks, and they are all above flood stage now,” McDonald said by telephone. The storm, which dumped at least 6 inches of rain on the city, caused the collapse of seven buildings there, he said. Although nobody was injured, at one building, a six-story structure, 20 residents had to be evacuated to safety.

About 21,000 residents in Philadelphia were without power Sunday morning, McDonald said, and as many as 300,000 in the larger metropolitan area. He said that an estimated 165 trees were down in the city and that only six had been removed so far Sunday morning.

“The mayor’s message is, please stay home,” he said. “There’s a lot of water on the ground and trees down that will turn many of the streets of the city into a difficult proposition in terms of

driving around.”

The airport, which closed at 10:30 p.m. Saturday, would probably not reopen before late Sunday afternoon, McDonald said, although subways and buses would begin running around noon. Rising waters were also a problem in Vermont, where Gov. Peter Shumlin said the state has “a full-blown flooding catastrophe on our hands. “For all intents and purposes, for whatever reason, Vermont is getting the full force of Irene and we’re going to be devastated with flooding,” Shumlin said. He expects the devastation to spread across the entire state of Vermont.

To the south, millions of residents were trying to pick up the pieces left in the storm’s wake.

In North Carolina, the state that took the first hard hit from Irene, residents woke up to a sun-drenched morning and ventured out to assess just how much damage had been done. The hurricane, which hit the coast Saturday morning with sustained winds of 85 mph, was well on its way north by late evening, leaving a state soggy but grateful the damage was not worse.

The flooding picture was better Sunday than feared the day before, but state and federal officials said they still did not know the extent of the storm’s damage.

“I think the cost is going to be significant,” Gov. Bev Perdue said.

She flew to three of the hardest-hit parts of the state Sunday, touching down in Jones County in the morn-

out power. Workers at 56 shelters housed more than 4,600 people overnight.

The Federal Emergency

back early in Washington from his vacation in Martha’s Vineyard, issued federal emergency declara-



A sign along the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway near the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel advises residents to evacuate the city as Hurricane Irene begins to strike the East Coast, in New York, Aug. 26, 2011. The first punch from Hurricane Irene landed here on Friday, foreshadowing what is to come as this vast storm, its most forceful winds stretching outward for 90 miles, churned north toward New York.

(Robert Stolarik/The New York Times)

ing and then heading to the coastal communities around Morehead City and Atlantic Beach, near where the hurricane first hit land, and then on to Dare County, which includes the Outer Banks. On Sunday morning, more than 225 roads and 21 bridges remained closed, blocked by trees and floodwaters or to keep travelers from dangerous conditions, said Ernie Seneca, a spokesman for the state emergency management office. More than half a million people remained with-

Management Agency, still seeking to redeem itself from its spotty performance after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, had 18 disaster-response teams in place along the East Coast, with stockpiles of food, water and mobile communications equipment ready to go. The American Red Cross had more than 200 emergency response vehicles and tens of thousands of ready-to-eat meals in areas due to be hit by the storm.

President Barack Obama,

tions for North Carolina, Virginia, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The declarations clear the way for federal support in responding to the hurricane’s aftermath, which could affect more than 50 million people. Early Sunday, according to the Associated Press, more than 2.3 million customers were without power from North Carolina through parts of Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. □



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New York expects lengthy recovery of transit system

M. M. GRYNBAUM

CHRISTINE HAUGHNEY

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NEW YORK — The New York City subway, whose closure in the lead-up to Tropical Storm Irene was perhaps the most unsettling element of a prodigious storm preparation effort, is set to reopen on a limited schedule in time for the Monday morning commute, said two officials who were briefed on the plans Sunday evening.

Parts of the underground system will remain closed due to flooding, including all service to the Rockaways in Queens. But nearly all of the subway's 22 lines, including express and local service, are expected to be restored, the official said. Fewer trains will run than in a normal morning rush.

Still, other parts of the region's mass transit network are likely to remain partially paralyzed for the morning commute, including the suburban commuter rail networks that carry thousands of workers to hospitals, investment firms and corner bodegas alike.

Although the city escaped a punishing blow from the storm, New York's ability to return to its usual humming self will rely largely on how quickly its lifeblood mass

transit system can recover. "Transit is the economic life, the cultural life of the city," said Mitchell Moss, director of the Rudin Center at New

Fallen trees and flooded tracks rendered some stretches of the regional rail network impassable Sunday, and officials said it



The looming threat of Hurricane Irene did not dissuade tourists from visiting Manhattan's Times Square, in New York.

(AP Photo/John Minchillo)

York University. "If you don't have that infrastructure working, you can't have a meal, you can't make a living, you can't get a prescription filled."

The consequences could quickly spread around the nation: With reduced transit options to the airports, some airlines said they had been reluctant to restore flights into the New York region. Departures will resume at 7 a.m. at LaGuardia Airport, and at noon at Kennedy and Newark Liberty International Airports.

could be several days before full train service is restored to upstate New York, Connecticut and Long Island, parts of which were hit much harder by the storm than the city.

Speaking to New Yorkers at a news conference Sunday, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg said bluntly: "You're going to have a tough commute in the morning."

But he praised the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for its decision to preemptively shut down the

transit network ahead of the storm, saying the agency had taken the right actions to preserve its equipment and would be better positioned to expedite the recovery.

Several subway train yards were flooded Sunday afternoon, and workers were trying to pump out water so that trains could run on their proper routes. But there were minimal signs of damage to the overall system, officials said, and the underwater tunnels that were considered vulnerable to the storm were mostly untouched.

Many trains had been removed from low-lying yards in advance of the storm, which made it easier for workers to restore them to service for Monday.

The volume of service may still be affected by transit workers' ability to reach those train yards, given the remaining difficulties with transportation.

It is perhaps a sign of New Yorkers' impatience that many incorrectly believe their city's subway system can be restored at the flick of a switch.

Before trains can start running again, transit workers must manually inspect hundreds of miles of track, pumping out water and checking on thousands of individual signals. (Water-logged tracks are sometimes restored with handheld hairdryers.)

There were other signs late Sunday that the system was beginning to stir from its self-imposed slumber. Buses began to crawl out of their depots in Manhattan and the Bronx in the afternoon, and transportation authority offered free rides for the day. Brooklyn and Queens were expected to have some buses back on the streets in the evening, but blocked and flooded roadways prevented service on Staten Island.

Delta Air Lines rented hotel rooms for several hundred employees during the storm so they could quickly return to work Monday. The airline is also hiring shuttle buses to pick up employees in Brooklyn and Queens on Monday morning.

Late Sunday, Amtrak officials said they did not know when service in the Northeast Corridor would be restored. New Jersey Transit officials said they doubted that its commuter train service would be at normal levels Monday, although the agency would run buses and Light Rail. The PATH train will also resume service at 4 a.m.

The less-than-severe impact that Irene had on the city led to some skepticism about whether the subways should have been preemptively closed, although Bloomberg and Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo praised the transportation authority for its actions. □

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As states-rights stalwart, Perry draws doubts

M. FERNANDEZ

EMILY RAMSHAW

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Emily Ramshaw writes for The Texas Tribune, which produces a twice-weekly local section in the Texas editions of The New York Times.

AUSTIN, Texas — As Gov. Rick Perry of Texas begins his presidential campaign, he has worked hard to position himself as the leading Republican champion of states' rights, using his high-profile battles with Washington and his book on the dangers of federal power to build an ideological and constitutional rationale for his fierce anti-Obama message.

From his lawsuits challenging federal health care and environmental programs to his suggestions that Texans were so angry with Washington that they might consider secession, Perry has repeatedly invoked the 10th Amendment — reserving to the states the powers not explicitly given to the national government. He uses it to give his candidacy an overarching theme, tap into the frustrations that have fueled the Tea Party movement and highlight the substance behind his swaggering style.

Though the governor has a claim to acting on these



Republican presidential candidate Texas Gov. Rick Perry, left, shakes hands with a supporter as he goes onstage at the Polk County GOP summer picnic event held at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines, Iowa.

(AP Photo/Nati Harnik)

principles, he has come to publicly embrace states' rights as a defining issue only in the past few years, a period when the 10th amendment has been a rallying cry for many Tea Party supporters, libertarians and others who make up his party's conservative base. And he has been inconsistent in applying them, drawing criticism from some states' rights advocates and raising questions even among fellow Republicans about whether his stance is as much campaign positioning as a philosophical commitment. After proclaiming

that gay marriage was an issue for individual states to decide, Perry backtracked in recent weeks and now says he supports a federal amendment banning gay marriage. He has also signaled support for various federal actions to restrict abortion rather than leaving the issue to states. And he used \$17 billion in federal stimulus money to balance the state's last two budgets.

Despite his vocal opposition to what he has called "the unprecedented and massive federal overreach" of President Barack Obama's health care over-

haul, Perry accepted a \$1 million federal grant last October to plan to carry out one of its key provisions. (Other Republican governors, including Rick Scott of Florida, have refused to use the grants.)

Although his 2010 book, "Fed Up! Our Fight to Save America from Washington," describes his outrage that federal bureaucrats distributed more than \$245 billion in farm subsidies from 1995 to 2009, the governor received some of that money. Perry, a former West Texas cotton farmer, received at least \$83,000 in federal farm subsidies between 1987 and 1998, during the time he was in elected office, according to his tax returns.

At the Republican Leader-

ship Conference in June in New Orleans, Perry said that while government plays an important role in helping a city recover from a disaster, "the real recovery" stems from hard-working individuals. Unfortunately, he added, Obama believed that government was the answer to every need, a sign of the "arrogance and audacity" of the White House. Three weeks earlier, in a letter to Obama, Perry struck a different tone as wildfires ravaged Texas. The Federal Emergency Management Agency had approved grants to reimburse some of the local and state costs of fighting the fires, but Perry was seeking the additional federal aid that comes from a presidential disaster declaration. □

Wireless networks stood up well to Irene

JENNA WORTHAM

JOSHUA BRUSTein

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Wireless phone networks held up well against Irene despite widespread losses of power.

Even in cases where people were without power, many were still able to communicate using email and social networks, thanks to battery-powered mobile devices. As cleanup crews and home owners began to assess the scope of the storm's damage Sunday, wireless phone companies were reporting that the storm's effect on their networks was minimal and that most customers did not experience cellular disruptions, despite the high winds and ferocious

rains. The wireless providers said the full extent might not be known until after Irene moved offshore. The Federal Communications Commission, which activated the Disaster Information Reporting System, an online tool that helps the organization gather information and assess the breadth of damage to the country's communications networks, is still gauging the extent of the disruptions. It said Sunday that no 9-1-1 center was without service and that it had received no reports of public safety communications disruptions.

Late Sunday afternoon, Julius Genachowski, the FCC chairman, said that a handful of radio sites and

thousands of wire lines went down during the storm, leaving 132,000 landline subscribers without service. The majority of those were in North Carolina and Virginia. The FCC said that 1,400 cell sites along the coast were down, and several hundred were running on backup power. Mark Siegel, a spokesman for AT&T, said Irene battered the company's network in several areas, including North Carolina, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Delaware. The company is still working to assess the storm's effect in New York, he said.

"We are ready to respond as soon as our crews are safely able to," he added. □

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Teachers get little say in a book about them

MICHAEL WINERIP

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Can an education reform movement that demeans and trivializes teachers succeed? It's hard to imagine, but that is what is going on in parts of America today.

In Steven Brill's new book celebrating the movement, "Class Warfare: Inside the Fight to Fix America's Schools," teachers are literally the least of it. Of the 3 million who work in traditional public schools, three are interviewed by Brill on the record; their insights take up six of the book's 437 pages.

Nor do charter school teachers fare much better. At Harlem Success Academy 1, which produces top scores on state tests, Brill describes how teachers working around the clock continually burn out. Like kitchen appliances, they last a few years and then

need to be replaced. One teacher describes being "overwhelmed, underappreciated and underpaid" and tells Brill, "There is no way I can do this beyond another year or two."

Brill has little positive to say about teachers. Veterans "hanging on for 20 or 30 years caring only about their pensions and tenure protection are toxic." While he admits that there are thousands of teachers who are skilled and highly motivated, "increasingly" there are those who put in an "8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. workday with a civil-service mentality." (How Brill could possibly know whether the number of these teachers is increasing is unclear, since he provides no statistics or attribution.)

Until this project, Brill, 61, had rarely written about education. Nor was he well acquainted with public schools - he graduated



Steven Brill, the author of "Class Warfare: Inside the Fight to Fix America's Schools," in his office in New York, Aug. 25, 2011. In his new book, which grew from his New Yorker article about the city's most dysfunctional teachers who collecting salaries while waiting for their cases to be resolved, the villains are bad teachers coddled by unions.

(Yana Paskova/The New York Times)

from Deerfield Academy in Massachusetts and sent his three children to private schools.

The book grew from his New Yorker article two years ago about rubber rooms, where the city's most

dysfunctional teachers spent idle days, collecting salaries while waiting months or years for their cases to be resolved. "I see a guy asleep with his head on a desk and alarm clock," Brill recalled in an

interview. "I see another guy, if he were in a room with my daughter, I'd call the police."

There were 744 teachers in rubber rooms at the time. For some, that is understandable in a system of 77,000 teachers; to Brill, it was a prime example of a union more interested in protecting its members than in educating children. Brill, a writer ("Teamsters," 1978), lawyer (Yale '75) and entrepreneur (founder of Court TV and the American Lawyer publication), knows that every story needs a villain or an evil force. In "Class Warfare," the problem is not the poverty the children experience, the violence they see in their homes and neighborhoods or the lack of vocabulary that the sons and daughters of adults who did not finish high school often take with them to kindergarten.

The villains of Brill's story are bad teachers coddled by unions.

With his legal training and business background, Brill is expert at chronicling the union's failings. He documents the growth of the New York City teachers' contract from 39 pages in 1962 to 200 today, along with work rules that can be used at every turn to obstruct principals from improving schools. He details the case of a Stuyvesant High School teacher who was so drunk that she passed out at her desk, only to have the union claim on its website that she was disciplined as part of a scheme to harm senior teachers. □

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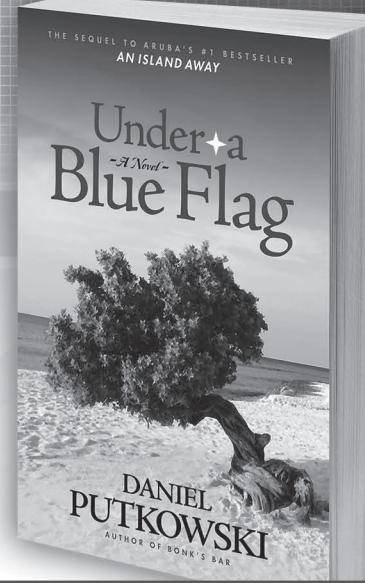


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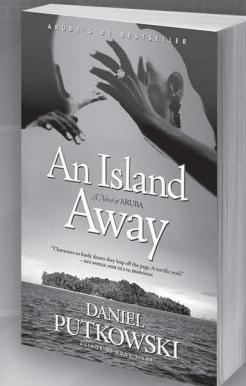
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Tropical Storm Jose brushes past Bermuda

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AP)

— Tropical Storm Jose spun just to the west of Bermuda on Sunday, buffeting the wealthy British territory with gusty winds and intermittent showers before heading out into the open Atlantic.

The 10th named storm of the season passed about 80 miles (130 kilometers) northwest of Bermuda with sustained winds of 45 mph (75 kph), causing some storm surge in western parts of the isolated island chain. There were no immediate reports of any damage or injuries, and a tropical storm warning was lifted Sunday night. "The tropical storm-force winds are limited to our western marine area. They aren't actually reaching the island," meteorologist



A large wall map at the National Hurricane Center in Miami shows the location of Tropical Storms Irene and newly formed Jose Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011. Jose is a minimal tropical storm that may affect Bermuda.

(AP Photo/J Pat Carter)

Ken Smith of the Bermuda Weather Service said earlier in the day.

Intermittent showers mixed with sunshine in Bermuda, which lies about 580 miles (933 kilometers) east of

Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, already battered by Hurricane Irene. Many islanders headed to church in their Sunday best.

A street market popular with tourists was canceled on St. George's, but most Sunday events went on normally. Forecasts had said that Jose, which formed early Sunday, could drop up to 3 inches (8 centimeters) of rain on Bermuda, but there were no sustained downpours reported in the territory.

Jose was moving north at about 20 mph (31 kph) Sun-

day night, the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida, said.

U.S. meteorologist Jeff Masters, who writes a popular weather blog, said Tropical Storm Jose would not survive long due to strong upper-level wind shear from Irene, which swirled over northern New England toward Canada on Sunday night after weakening to a tropical storm from a once-powerful hurricane.

Smith said Jose was expected to weaken into a tropical depression Monday and later dissipate. □

Soldier sought in 4 deaths found dead

RON TODT

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A soldier suspected of killing four people was found dead of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound in after a daylong manhunt during which he fired at and injured officers, authorities said.

The body of Leonard John Egland, 37, was found Sunday in suburban Philadelphia, where he had been sought since early morning, said Pennsylvania State Police spokesman David Lynch.

Egland fired at officers as he was sought in the Virginia deaths of his ex-wife, her boyfriend and the boyfriend's young son, as well as his former mother-in-law in Pennsylvania, police said.

Local residents had been asked to stay in their homes and lock doors and cars as local and state police and two commando teams searched for Egland, who evaded authorities as Hurricane Irene lashed the area.

A rifle and pistol were found with the body, which was discovered more than 10 hours after Egland fired at police, authorities said. □



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Hundreds protest over Mexico casino arson attack

ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON

PORFIRIO RAMIREZ

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP)

- Hundreds of protesters demonstrated Sunday against the government in the aftermath of a casino arson attack that killed 52 people and has been labeled one of the worst crimes of Mexico's deadly five-year drug war.

Clad in the white shirts that have been adopted at Mexican demonstrations against violence and crime, more than 1,000 people demanded that the Nuevo Leon state governor and the mayor of the industrial city of Monterrey quit. Demonstrators held protest signs against the political

leaders. They said they are tired of the violence that afflicts the metropolis of 4 million as the Gulf drug cartel and the rival Zetas battle over turf. The protest came as the website of the newspaper Reforma reported that state police arrested two people in connection with Thursday's attack on the Casino Royale. The newspaper quoted a state official, who did not answer phone calls seeking confirmation. Other officials, including Nuevo Leon Gov. Rodrigo Medina, refused to confirm or deny the arrests. A surveillance tape of Thursday's fire shows eight or nine men arriving in four cars carrying canisters into



People demonstrate during a protest in Monterrey, northern Mexico, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011. Hundreds of people protested outside the state government offices in Monterrey three days after an arson attack on a casino killed some 52 people. Most demonstrators wore white shirts and held protest signs against political leaders.

(AP Photo/Arnulfo Franco)

the Casino Royale on a commercial avenue. In little more than two minutes, the casino is in flames and choking black smoke churns from the building. Authorities released sketches of three of the men based on interview with survivors of the fire. The newspaper report gave no in-

formation on what role the detained men allegedly had in the attack.

According to witnesses, the gunmen burst into the casino and shouted for people to get out, saying they were burning the place down. But people ran farther inside the building, where many were found dead

from smoke inhalation in offices and bathrooms.

President Felipe Calderon has offered a \$2.4 million reward for information leading to the capture of the casino's attackers, an amount comparable to the ones offered for the arrest of the country's top drug lords. □

Israeli police: 5 wounded in attack

JERUSALEM (AP) — A Palestinian attacker wounded five Israeli policemen and civilians near a Tel Aviv nightclub early Monday, hitting several people with his car and then stabbing others, police said.

The attacker was a 19-year-old from the Palestinian city of Nablus, according to Israeli police spokeswoman Luba Samri.

Just before 2 a.m., the attacker hit two people with a car that was apparently

stolen, she said. He then got out of the car and stabbed three others. Samri said he was shouting "Allahu akbar" — Arabic for "God is great," a phrase often used as a battle-cry by Islamic militants.

The attacker was arrested. He was injured and was taken to a hospital.

Samri said the wounded include several policemen who were manning a police checkpoint near the Oman 17 nightclub in south

Tel Aviv, Israel's metropolitan center.

No further details were immediately available. Such attacks inside Israel, once common, have fallen off in recent years as Israeli and Palestinian forces have restored security in the adjacent Palestinian territory of the West Bank. But some violence has continued.

One Israeli was killed in a similar attack with a vehicle in Tel Aviv in May. □

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Enigmatic in power, Gadhafi is elusive while at large

ANTHONY SHADID

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TRIPOLI, Libya — It was perhaps only fitting that Moammar Gadhafi would be as unpredictable on the lam as he was in power for 42 eccentric years.

In Green Square, now re-

named Martyrs' Square, youths cleaning the asphalt predicted he was under their feet. In Bab al-Aziziya, once Gadhafi's bastion of power here, residents carting away his possessions suggested neighboring Alge-

ria, his hometown of Sirte or some faraway locale in the desert, an environment in which Gadhafi long claimed to feel most at home.

Fighters firing volley after celebratory volley just shrugged. "It's the biggest question — where is Gadhafi — and nobody knows," said Suleiman Abu Milyana, a fighter from the Nafusah Mountains in the west. "He has a particular mind and many personalities. If he had one, you could guess, but he has three or four, so no one can know."

As his capital fell last week, Gadhafi and his family evaporated (though two of his sons may, or may not, have been briefly held). Even the adopted daughter he claimed was killed in an U.S. airstrike in 1986 — wrongly, it now seems — disappeared from the city of 2 million, leaving behind

evening when a bomb exploded just outside the military academy. Soldiers dining at a restaurant — which was within the base but near its perimeter — raced from their tables to see what had happened, according to security officials.

As a crowd gathered, a suicide bomber with explosives strapped to his body drove his motorcycle at them, the officials said. The city was sealed off after the attack and the army chief of staff, Gen. Gaid Salah, arrived by helicopter shortly after to survey the scene.

Islamist extremists have battled Algerian security forces since 1992 when the army canceled a national election that a now-banned Muslim fundamentalist party was poised to win.

Security forces gained the upper hand over the years, but sporadic attacks continue and increased dramatically in July. An estimated 200,000 people — civilians, insurgents and security forces — have been killed since the violence began. □

Algeria attack claimed by al-Qaida offshoot

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb claimed responsibility Sunday for the attack on a military academy in Algeria that killed at least 18 people including 16 officers in training.

Al-Qaida's North African wing said in a statement posted online that two suicide bombers carried out Friday's attack on the Cherchell military academy, 110 miles (180 kilometers) west of the capital, Algiers.

The defense ministry says the attack killed 16 officers and two civilians, and wounded 26 others. AQIM says it killed 36 officers and wounded 35. AQIM called the attack "the Eid gift for the Algerian families of the martyrs and the prisoners." Friday was the 27th day of the holy month of Ramadan, a sacred day in the Muslim calendar when the devout say that their prayers go directly to God.

The three-day holiday Eid al-Fitr marks the end of the fasting month of Ramadan this week. Traditionally, children get new clothes, shoes, haircuts and toys for the holiday.

The attacks began Friday



In this montage entitled "The Team of the Corrupted Regime" which was released by an unidentified resident of Tripoli, can be seen from top left:- Moammar Gadhafi, and his sons, Seif Al Islam; Hannibal, head of Navy; Mohammed, Communication and Medias; Saadi, former soccer player. On the first row bottom, from left, Youssef Shakir, State TV personality, Bagdadi Mahmoudi, Prime Minister, Choukri Ganem, economy minister; Abdallah Senoussi, head of Intelligence and Security; Moussa Brahim, spokesman; Muatassim, Son of Gadhafi and National Security leader; in Tripoli, Libya, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

(AP Photo / Francois Mori)

her empty office at a Tripoli hospital. Since then, he has released a few brief audio messages, with vintage insults four decades in the making. In one, he called on countrymen to

cleanse his capital of rats, traitors and infidels. "Let the masses crawl from every place toward Tripoli," he declared in the other.

"Forward! Forward! Forward!" he cried. □

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Officials: 29 dead in suicide bomb in Iraq mosque

LARA JAKES

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — A suicide bomber blew himself up inside Baghdad's largest Sunni mosque Sunday night, killing 29 people during prayers, a shocking strike on a place of worship similar to the one that brought Iraq to the brink of civil war five years ago.

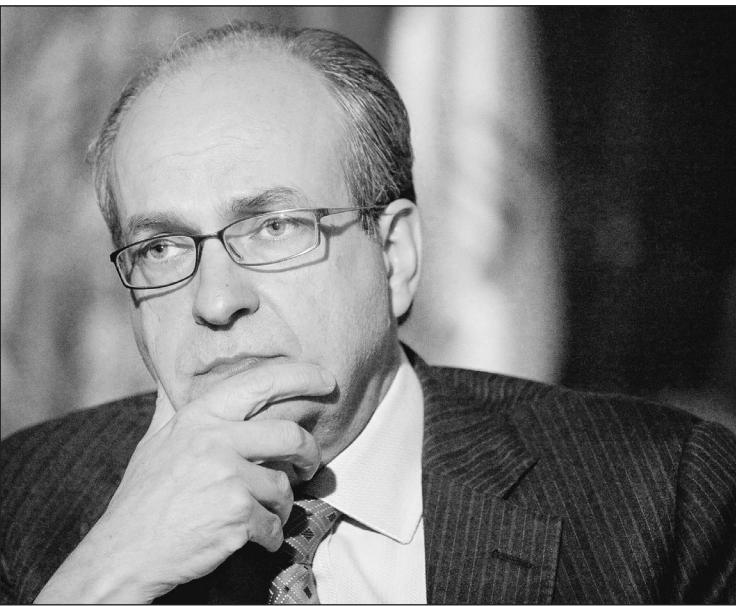
Irqi security officials said parliament lawmaker Khalid al-Fahdawi, a Sunni, was among the dead in the 9:40 p.m. attack.

Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Mousawi, a spokesman for Baghdad's military operations command, confirmed

the bombing happened inside the Um al-Qura mosque during prayers in the western Baghdad neighborhood of al-Jamiaah. The blue-domed building is the largest Sunni mosque in Baghdad.

"I heard something like a very severe wind storm, with smoke and darkness, and shots by the guards," said eyewitness Mohammad Mustafa, who hit in the hand by shrapnel. "Is al-Qaida able to carry out their acts against worshippers? How did this breach happen?"

That the bomber detonated his explosives vest inside



United Nations Special Representative Ad Melkert is seen during an interview with The Associated Press in Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011. Top UN envoy in Iraq Ad Melkert discussed the challenges Iraqis have ahead in his last interview before leaving the country after two years in Baghdad.

(AP Photo / Karim Kadim)

standing as one line behind the army and the police, are the only way to eliminate this danger, which does not differentiate between the Iraqis and targets all of us," al-Maliki said. The attack hit Sunnis who were praying in a special service during the holy Muslim month of Ramadan, which ends Tuesday. It demonstrates anew that security measures to protect Iraqis as U.S. forces prepare to leave remain riddled with gaps, and shows the extent to which militants want to extend violence even as the eight-year U.S. presence winds down.

The mosque's security is provided by the government-supported Sunni Endowment, and al-Mousawi raised the possibility that the bomber had inside help. "For sure there must have been someone inside the mosque who helped the bomber," al-Mousawi said. "It must have been someone who is protecting the mosque."

Sheik Ahmed Abdul Gafur al-Samarraie, the head of Sunni Endowment, agreed that was a possibility and said the group would investigate how the bomber got inside the mosque, where an estimated 200 people were praying. He said this is the first time such a security breach had occurred, and said guards did not suspect the bomber because he had a broken hand that was bandaged. Al-Samarraie said the bomber exploded just a few feet (meters) from him, and called himself the likely target. He blamed al-Qaida. □

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the mosque is particularly alarming, as it is reminiscent of a 2006 attack on a Shiite shrine in the Sunni city of Samarra that fueled widespread sectarian violence and nearly ignited a nationwide civil war. In that strike, Sunni militants planted bombs around the Samarra shrine, destroying its signature gold dome and badly damaging the rest of the structure.

Under deposed dictator Saddam Hussein, a Sunni, Iraq's Shiite majority was persecuted and repressed. Shiites took power after his ouster, stoking Sunni resentment that bore the insurgency. No group immediately claimed responsibility for Sunday's bombing, but suicide attacks generally are a hallmark of al-Qaida, which is dominated by Sunnis. Intelligence officials have speculated that al-Qaida will do almost any-

thing to re-ignite sectarian violence, but the group recently had focused on attacking Iraqi security forces and the government to prove how unstable Iraq remains.

Two security officials and medics at two Baghdad hospitals put the casualty toll at 29 dead and 38 wounded. All spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information.

Al-Mousawi put the death toll at only six and said there was no significant damage to the mosque. Conflicting death tolls are common immediately after attacks in Iraq.

In a statement early Monday, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki called on Iraqis to stand strong against terrorists and "pursue them wherever they are."

"Solidarity and unity, and

Safety of UN HQ in question

JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — Two top U.N. officials offered conflicting views on the safety of its Nigeria headquarters after a suicide car bombing there, as the world body paused to mourn the 23 people killed in the attack claimed by a radical Muslim sect.

U.N. security chief Gregory Starr acknowledged Sunday that safety features "could have been better" to stop the speeding sedan loaded with explosives. But only hours later, U.N. Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro told journalists that the building had "really, really tight" security. Migiro earlier laid bouquets

of red and white roses near a U.N. flag flying at half staff at the site of Friday's attack, along with Nigeria's foreign minister and the body's acting local representative. She promised the U.N. would continue its work no matter what in Nigeria, an oil-rich country of 150 million people now violently divided by religion and ethnicity.

"We cannot allow ourselves to be intimidated by terrorism," Migiro said.

A suicide bomber rammed through two sets of gates to reach the U.N. building's glass reception hall. There, the bomber detonated explosives powerful enough to bring down parts of the concrete structure and

blow out glass windows from other buildings in the quiet neighborhood filled with diplomatic posts.

While U.N. guards weren't re-armed, Starr said the Nige-

ral police are more known for asking for bribes and intimidating civilians than protecting the public.

The U.N. also had no specific intelligence or infor-

"We had some general threats worldwide and some very mixed, general threat information about the environment" in Nigeria, Starr told The Associated Press. "But no, (we had) no advanced warning."

The U.N. compound had a long driveway that allowed the suicide bomber to pick up speed, Starr acknowledged. The gates were not heavy, as Migiro shook them herself while touring the rubble-strewn grounds. The gates also did not have one-way traffic spikes nor any additional barriers to stop a speeding vehicle.

Despite that, Migiro said the building's security remained strong enough to provide protection while allowing the public access to the U.N.

"If people are plotting, no matter what we're doing, we may continue to be targets," she said.

The death toll for the attack rose Sunday to 23 people killed, said Martin Dawes, a U.N. spokesman attending the trip. □



Abuja's National Mosque is seen through safety netting at a construction site, in Abuja, Nigeria Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011. In a nation often divided by religion and ethnicity, the nation's capital has increasingly become a target for attacks by a radical Muslim sect from the country's northeast. Boko Haram's Friday attack on U.N. headquarters, which killed 23, marks a major escalation in its sectarian fight against Nigeria's weakened central government.

(AP Photo/Rebecca Blackwell)

rian government provided the compound armed security. It remains unclear how those forces responded, though Nigeria's fed-

mation about Boko Haram, the radical Muslim sect from Nigeria's northeast that claimed responsibility for the attack.

Bahrain's king pardons most protesters

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Bahrain will dismiss charges against some people detained during crackdowns against Shiite-led protests and allow compensation to prisoners abused by security forces, the Gulf nation's king said Sunday in a nationally broadcast speech.

It came more than six months after his regime launched sweeping crackdowns against demonstrators seeking greater rights.

In the speech, King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa offered no clear concessions toward Bahrain's majority Shiites, whose demands include easing the Sunni dynasty's hold on power, setting policies and hand-picking government officials.

Bahrain's Shiites make up about 70 percent of the island kingdom's 525,000 citizens, and complain that they face widespread discrimination, such as being excluded from top political and security posts.

At least 32 people have been killed and hundreds arrested since protests began in February, inspired by other Arab uprisings.

"We would like to emphasize that we do not anticipate putting everyone on trial. There are those who were charged with abusing us and senior officials in Bahrain, and we today announce that we forgive them," said the king in a message for the last part of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

King Hamad also noted that Bahrain's Supreme Court will oversee compensation payments for victims of abuses or for families of those killed during unrest, including security forces.

"There are those who were arrested, and investigations proved that they were the victims of individual behavior and were ill-treated in custody," the king said. "This is not tolerated by God and we do not condone it."

"The last few months were painful for all of us, and even though we all live in the same country, some have forgotten about the inevitability of coexistence," the king said. □

Journalist flees Ecuador after clash with leader

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — An Ecuadorean journalist accused of libeling President Rafael Correa has fled the country.

Emilio Palacio issued a letter from Miami on Sunday saying he feared for his safety because of new pressures from what he called "the dictatorship."

The alleged pressures include a new criminal charge for referring to a state television journalist as a fascist. Palacios says that "one would have to be blind not to understand that they want me behind bars."

In July, a court sentenced Palacios and three executives of the newspaper Universo to three years in prison and \$42 million in fines for libeling the president. They are appealing.

Correa denies trying to quash freedom of the

press, saying he is only demanding fair reporting. □

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Sony TV aims for prime time

BROOKS BARNES

© 2011 New York Times

CULVER CITY, Calif. — In October 2001, an exasperated Howard Stringer, the chief executive of Sony, ordered a dramatic downsizing at the company's studio here. Moviemaking would continue apace, but the production of new television shows — buffeted by soaring costs and industry consolidation — would nearly cease. "There just had to be a better way," recalled Stringer in an interview by phone.

"The trail of destruction I found really depressing." A decade later, Stringer's mood has lightened considerably. Sony's television business — rebuilt brick by brick, or at least time slot by time slot — is now driving profitability at the broader studio.

Part of the reason is weakness on the movie side of Sony Pictures Entertainment; high marketing costs and a shortage of franchise films have severely dented its performance. But the small-screen side is also surging because of an improved hit-to-miss ratio, a leaner structure and overseas channel growth.

"Quietly and inexorably, Steve has expertly evolved that business," Stringer said of Steve Mosko, Sony's television chief. Even so, Mosko still cannot boast of a completed turnaround. The Sony stable now includes money minters like "The Dr. Oz Show" and critical darlings like "Breaking



Margot Robbie in ABC's TV show "Pan Am," a stylish period drama about spying stewardesses that arrives on Sept. 25, in an undated handout photo. Sony's television business is now driving profitability at Sony Pictures Entertainment.

(Patrick Harbron/ABC via The New York Times)



Steve Mosko, chief of Sony Pictures television, at Sony Studios in Culver City, Calif., June 24, 2011. Sony's television business is now driving profitability at Sony Pictures Entertainment.

(J. Emilio Flores/The New York Times)

Bad," but the studio has struggled to score a home run in prime time on a major broadcast network — still

the industry's sweet spot. The best Mosko has been able to muster are doubles like the Joel McHale com-

edy "Community." This fall, Mosko is hoping to hit one out of the park with "Pan Am," a stylish period drama

about spying stewardesses that arrives on Sept. 25 on ABC. The stakes are considerable for Sony, which spent an estimated \$10 million to make the "Pan Am" pilot, a staggering sum by industry standards. A flop would underscore why Stringer got out of this risky game a decade ago and call into question the studio's current direction. Sony's other new shows for the fall are less ambitious, but also costly. They include a remake of "Charlie's Angels" for ABC and "Unforgettable," a co-production with CBS that is centered on a detective with a memory affliction. If this pressure is weighing on Mosko, whose contract expires next year, he is not showing it. When asked about the price tag for "Pan Am" in an interview, he coolly adjusted a Buddhist-style bracelet adorning his left wrist and said, "We're not going to spend like drunken fools, but it needs to look a certain way for ABC to be happy and advertisers to be happy and deliver great results for Sony."

Sony's revival comes as entertainment companies across the board lean more heavily on television to cope with an atrophying film business. Movie executives have been laying off employees and cutting back on production as a result of imploding DVD sales, piracy and weakening sales of old films to cable networks. □

LOCAL

Aruba TODAY

Aruba honors loyal visitors

Recently a group of loyal visitors from Aruba were honored as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassador of Goodwill of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for between ten or more and 20 or more consecutive years.

All of the honorees are members of the Renaissance Ocean Suites and has been coming to Aruba for over 10 consecutive years and one of them for 40 years. The honorees are Mr. James and Mrs. Cindy MC Gowam, Mr. Jim and Mrs. Gail Flammia and Mr. Kenneth and Mrs. Gail Morrison they all received the Distinguished Visitor certificates and Mrs. Raquel Hernandez received her Am-



bassador of Goodwill certificate. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Linda Brokke from the Renaissance Ocean Suites.□

Caruso family loves Aruba!

Recently were honored as Distinguished Visitor of Aruba Mr. Paul and Debra Caruso.

The Caruso family has been visiting the island for 10 consecutive years and are loyal guests of the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for between ten (10 and nineteen (19) consecutive years.

The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel from the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Jahaira Janga and Lucien Sebelon from the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort.□



Rivas family enjoying Aruba again!



Recently were honored as Ambassador of Goodwill of Aruba, Mr. William and Mrs. Consuelo Rivas.

The Rivas couple has been

visiting the island for over 30 consecutive years and are loyal members of the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort. They brought the whole



family on this trip for this special celebration and are enjoying themselves very much on their home away from home.

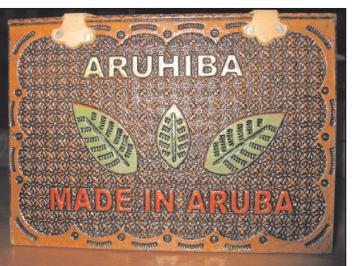
The certificate was presented in the name of the Ministry of Tourism by Mr. Ernest Giel from the Aruba Tourism Authority

together with Ms. Xiomara Morris Activities Coordinator for the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort. □

Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemade Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

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Puerto Rico senator resigns in explicit photo controversy

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— A Puerto Rico lawmaker has resigned following reports that explicit photos of him surfaced on an iPhone application for gays and bisexuals, the head of the U.S. territory's Senate announced Sunday.

Sen. Roberto Arango, a Republican who represents the capital of San Juan for the island's governing party, presented his letter of resignation after a weekend meeting, Senate President Thomas Rivera Schatz said.

Schatz did not release the lawmaker's letter, but said the circumstances that led to the resignation "are very lamentable."

Local news media published photos from the application showing a man's nude upper body with a cell phone obscuring his face. Another photo showed a rear view of a nude man

on his hands and knees. Another showed a fuzzy image of a face that seemed to match Arango's.

Arango has neither confirmed nor denied suggestions by local media that the photos might be of him and apparently was not asked if he had posted them. During a recent interview with WAPA TV in Puerto Rico, the senator said he has taken pictures of himself with a cell phone to document his recent weight loss.

"I really don't remember having taken those pictures of myself, but it doesn't mean I didn't take them," he told the station. "I really don't remember."

Arango did not return calls Sunday.

A graduate of Louisiana State University and a food importer before turning to politics, he was chairman of a business council for

the national Republican Party and municipal director of the Republican Party in Puerto Rico, according to his Web page for Puerto Rico's Senate.

Pedro Julio Serrano, founder of the gay rights group Puerto Rico for Everyone, said Arango voted in favor of Resolution 99, a proposal that would block any attempt to permit same-sex marriages in the U.S. territory. He also helped block a measure to ban sexual discrimination in the workplace and opposed adoption rights for gays. "This isn't a moment to kick someone when he's down, but I have to denounce Sen. Roberto Arango's complicity with a fundamentalist agenda that promotes the exclusion and marginalization of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people," Serrano said Sunday. □

Chavez set to begin new round of cancer treatment

JORGE RUEDA

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — President Hugo Chavez thanked Venezuelans on Sunday for praying for his health as he undergoes a third round of chemotherapy at a military hospital in Caracas, this time getting the cancer treatment at home rather than Cuba.

Chavez walked into the Dr. Carlos Arvelo Military Hospital accompanied by his daughter Rosa and aides late Saturday. He said his treatment has been going well and aims to prevent reappearance of cancer cells more than two months after he underwent surgery. "From here, I join all these prayers and masses for the health of all of us," Chavez tweeted Sunday. "God bless you!"

"I want to salute and congratulate all the employees that work at our marvelous Military Hospital," he added in another tweet.

State television broadcast footage of a prayer meet-

ing in Chavez's home state of Barinas, where dozens of Venezuelans listened to a priest who urged government supporters to pray for the president's quick recovery.

"We love you — your mother, your father and your brothers and all of your family and friends," Chavez's father, Hugo de los Reyes Chavez, said at the prayer meeting. "All the people love you very much."

"Take care of yourself in this battle," he added.

Chavez, who often jokes about relatively serious personal matters, said he was enjoying the preparations before treatment.

"I'm having fun here! And finishing the preparations for my chemotherapy," he said in a third tweet, apparently sent from the hospital before beginning the treatment.

Before entering the hospital, Chavez said on television Saturday that he and his team of Cuban and Venezuelan doctors de-



Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez, right, acknowledges cheering supporters while holding his daughter Rosa's hand, right, on a balcony of the Miraflores presidential palace in Caracas, Venezuela, Saturday Aug. 27, 2011.

Associated Press

cided it would be all right for him to undergo chemotherapy in Venezuela after his latest round of medical tests Friday.

"I'm determined to continue living," Chavez said at the hospital. "It's not time to die. What we have to do still is a great deal."

Chavez, who was first elected in 1998, has vowed to bounce back and win re-election in 2012. □



In this April 7, 2008 file photo, Puerto Rico's Senator Roberto Arango, right, poses for a photo with former U.S. President Bill Clinton, center, after the unveiling ceremony of a statue of former President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Capitol building in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Associated Press

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Mexico's Sinaloa cartel makes big move into meth

MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's most powerful drug cartel appears to be expanding methamphetamine production on a massive scale, filling a gap left by the breakdown of a rival gang that was once the top trafficker of the synthetic drug.

The globe-spanning Sinaloa cartel is suspected of dealing record tons of drugs and precursor chemicals processed in industrial-sized operations. The apparent increase in the Sinaloa group's involvement comes as the Mexican government says it has dismantled the La Familia gang with key arrests and killings of its leadership, and as Mexico is once again the primary source of meth to the United States, according to U.S. drug intelligence reports. Methamphetamine production, gauged by seizures of labs and drugs in Mexico, has increased dramatically since 2008.

Mexican authorities have made two major busts in as many months in the quiet central state of Queretaro. In one case, they seized nearly 500 tons (450 metric tons) of precursor chemicals. Another netted 3.4 tons (3.1 metric tons) of pure meth, which at \$15,000 a pound would have a street value of more than \$100 million.

Authorities said they couldn't put a value on the

precursors, which were likely headed for a 300-foot-long (100-meter-long) industrial processing lab found buried 12 feet (4 meters) underground in a farm field in the cartel's home, Sinaloa state. "We think it was Sinaloa," said a U.S. law enforcement official in Mexico, noting that Sinaloa can piggyback meth onto the network it already has for cocaine, heroin and marijuana. "They may now have this renewed interest in trying to control a bigger portion of the meth market. Although La Familia has distribution points in the U.S. ... they don't have the distribution network that Sinaloa cartel has."

He couldn't be named for security reasons.

Steve Preisler, an industrial chemist who wrote the book "Secrets of Methamphetamine Manufacture" and is sometimes called the father of modern meth-making, said "the quantity is just amazing."

"It is a huge amount of starting material which would allow them to dominate the world market," Preisler, who served 3½ years in prison more than two decades ago, emailed The Associated Press in reply to questions. He added that the most efficient production methods would yield about half the weight of the precursors in uncut meth, or between 200 and 250 tons, which could be worth billions of dollars.



In this June 20, 2011, photo released by Mexico's Attorney General's office, police from the Federal Public Ministry look at drums of precursor chemicals for methamphetamine that were seized in Queretaro, Mexico.

Associated Press

Officials of Mexico's federal police, army and attorney general's office refused to comment on who owned the meth lab or precursor warehouses.

Meth availability in the U.S. has rebounded since the drop in 2007 and is directly related to production in Mexico, according to the U.S. Justice Department.

Meth seizures remained roughly level in the U.S. at 8.16 tons (7.4 metric tons) in 2008 and 8.27 (7.5 metric tons) in 2009. But Mexico went from seizing 0.37 tons (0.34 metric tons) in 2008 to 6.72 tons (6.1 metric tons) in 2009, the U.N. report said. Mexican meth seizure fig-

ures for 2010 are not yet published, but the U.S. official said they almost certainly rose over 2009.

Authorities seized 200 tons of precursor chemicals at the seaport of Manzanillo last year, a raid that the Attorney General's Office described at the time as the largest in Mexican history. The Queretaro seizure last month was double that.

Seizures of methamphetamine laboratories also have increased dramatically, according to the U.S. State Department's 2011 International Narcotics Control Report. The number of methamphetamine labs seized by Mexican au-

thorities jumped from 57 in 2008 to 217 in 2009, and the number of busts remained almost as high in early 2010. The volume "suggests that it is not solely for U.S. and domestic consumption," the report said. The Mexican government says its offensive against La Familia, a pseudo-religious gang based in western Michoacan state that was once the country's main meth producer, is one of the key successes in its crackdown on organized crime and drug-trafficking. Founder Nazario Moreno Gonzalez was killed in a two-day shootout with federal police in December. □

David Price strikes down Toronto

Tampa Bay Rays starting pitcher David Price throws against the Toronto Blue Jays during first-inning AL baseball game action in Toronto on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

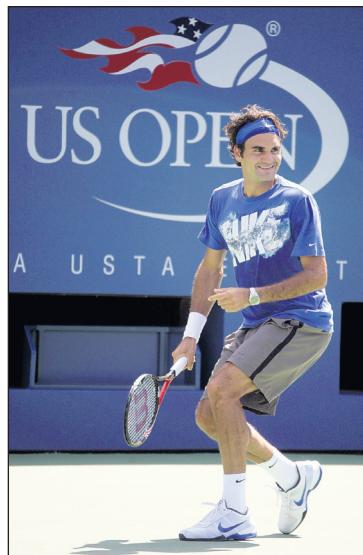
Associated Press
See Page 19



SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

U.S. Open to start Monday



Switzerland's Roger Federer practices at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York, Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2011. Federer is seeded third in the men's rankings at the U.S. Open, which is scheduled to start at the stadium on Monday, Aug. 29.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. Open will begin Monday with tweaks to the day's original schedule, including a two-hour delay for the start of play at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

The U.S. Tennis Association said Sunday that the site of the year's last Grand Slam tournament had "minimal damage" from Tropical Storm Irene.

The gates at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center will open to the public at 10 a.m. Monday, and matches will start as planned at 11 a.m. on nine of the tournament's 13 courts, including Louis Armstrong Stadium.

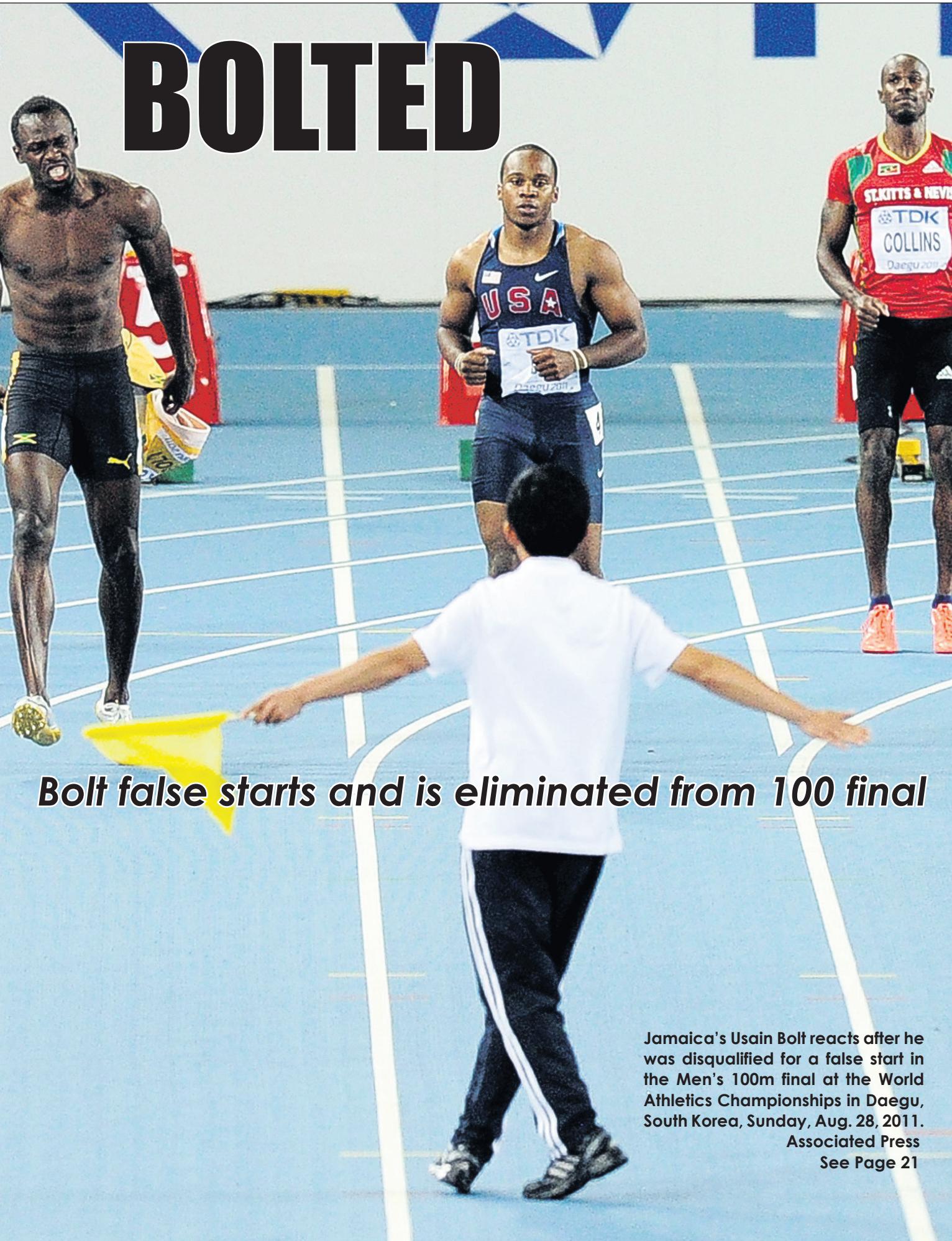
At Arthur Ashe Stadium, the U.S. Open's main arena, play is to begin at 1 p.m., instead of 11 a.m. □

BOLTED

Bolt false starts and is eliminated from 100 final

Jamaica's Usain Bolt reacts after he was disqualified for a false start in the Men's 100m final at the World Athletics Championships in Daegu, South Korea, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

Associated Press
See Page 21



Brittany Lincicome wins Canadian Women's Open



Brittany Lincicome, from the United States, is sprayed with champagne as she holds the trophy on the 18th green after winning the Canadian Women's Open golf tournament at Hillsdale Golf Club in Mirabel, Quebec, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

Associated Press

MIRABEL, Quebec (AP) —

Brittany Lincicome was singing in the rain Sunday in the Canadian Women's Open. "I was very patient, singing a lot of songs, very chatty," Lincicome said after her second LPGA Tour vic-

tory of the season and fifth overall.

"The weather was not great, but I was still having fun. I'm definitely going to remember this win."

To stay focused, the long-hitting American sings to herself as part of her sports

psychology program. She wasn't quite ready for an encore in the media center.

"I'm not a good singer, so I'm not singing for you," she said.

Lincicome, with former Canadian player A.J. Eathorne working as her caddie, saved par on the 18th hole for a 2-under 70 to edge defending champion Michelle Wie and Stacy Lewis by a stroke at Hillsdale Golf & Country Club. Lincicome finished at 13 under and earned \$337,500.

"I never won on tour myself, so it's kind of cool to say I've been involved in two wins in one year," Eathorne said.

"I guess, I never thought it would get that good, that fast."

"It's been a lot of fun this week being a Canadian in Canada."

Everyone's asking me why I'm not playing and obviously there's a very good

reason I'm not playing. I've got a great job. I can be involved in a win and I know my game is not where it needs to be to do that."

Lewis shot a 67 — the best round of the day — to match Wie (72) at 12 under.

"I knew the day was going to be hard and you just have to get through it — grind over every putt and every shot," said Lewis, who got in 15 holes before the rain started.

Wie, the winner last year at St. Charles in Winnipeg, Manitoba, needed a birdie on the 18th to force a play-off, but missed the green, took a drop to get clear of a fence, and made par.

"I'm proud of the way I hung in there," Wie said. "Coming in, I had a lot of clutch shots that I can really take positives from. It feels good to be back in contention again."

U.S. Solheim Cup players took the top five spots, with

Cristie Kerr (71) and Angela Stanford (72) tying for fourth at 11 under.

Fears that the fourth round wouldn't be concluded because of remnants of Tropical Storm Irene didn't pan out.

It rained heavily on the back nine for the leaders and the wind gusted, but play was never stopped. Organizers moved up start times by 90 minutes, grouped the players into threesomes instead of twosomes, and sent them off both the first and 10th tees to get the round in before the course could be washed out.

If the final round had been wiped out, there would have been a play-off among 54-hole leaders Wie, Tiffany Joh and Ai Miyazato.

Joh shot a 76 to tie for 12th at 8 under, and Miyazato had a 77 to tie for 16th at 7 under. □



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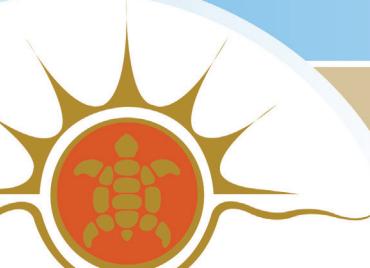
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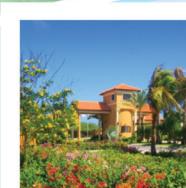


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Rays romp Blue Jays, Price strikes out franchise-high 14

TORONTO (AP) — David Price struck out a franchise-record 14 in seven dominant innings, Desmond Jennings hit a pair of solo home runs and the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Toronto Blue Jays 12-0 on Sunday.

Price (12-11) broke the team mark for strikeouts shared by Scott Kazmir and James Shields. Relievers Brandon Gomes and Cesar Ramos each struck out two. Jennings homered on the first pitch of the game from Brandon Morrow (9-9) and got a career-high four hits. He drove in three runs, scored three, drew a walk and also stole a base from the leadoff spot. Sean Rodriguez added a two-run homer and Matt Joyce doubled twice during a six-run ninth as the Rays improved to an AL-best 20-9 since July 28. Price improved to 9-1 with a 1.99 ERA in 11 career starts against Toronto. The Blue Jays lost their fourth straight overall.

Twins 11, Tigers 4

At Minneapolis, Luke Hughes hit two home runs to help the Minnesota Twins take out their hitting frustration on Brad Penny and the Detroit Tigers, ending a seven-game losing streak. Hughes drove in five runs for the first time in his ca-

reer, backing Brian Duensing (9-13) and sparking the Twins to just their fourth win against the Tigers in their last 19 meetings. Penny (9-10) gave up eight hits, seven runs and two walks in five innings. He struck out five.

Orioles 2, Yankees 0

At Baltimore, rookie Zach Britton allowed four hits over seven innings, and the Baltimore Orioles extended their winning streak to a season-high six games by defeating the New York Yankees in the opener of a split doubleheader.

The Orioles had not won six in a row since April 2008. The game was scoreless until the seventh, when Nick Markakis doubled and Vladimir Guerrero singled.

It was Deter Jeter's 2,402nd game with New York, breaking a tie with Mickey Mantle for most in a Yankees uniform. Jeter went 0 for 4 as the designated hitter.

Yankees second baseman Robinson Cano went 0 for 3, ending his 17-game hitting streak. Britton (8-9) allowed four singles, struck out five and walked one before being pulled after throwing a career-high 120 pitches. Jim Johnson pitched a perfect eighth inning and Kevin Gregg worked the ninth



Tampa Bay Rays starting pitcher David Price throws against the Toronto Blue Jays during first-inning AL baseball game action in Toronto on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

Associated Press

for his 19th save. Bartolo Colon (8-9) has lost his last three starts.

White Sox 9, Mariners 3

At Seattle, Dayan Viciedo made a sudden impact in his return to the majors, hitting a three-run homer in his season debut as the Chicago White Sox beat the Seattle Mariners. Tyler Flowers connected for his first career grand slam, helping Gavin Floyd (12-10) cruise to victory. Viciedo was called up from Triple-A Charlotte on Saturday when the White Sox placed

outfielder Carlos Quentin on the 15-day disabled list. The newly promoted right fielder singled in his first at-bat, then homered over the right-center field fence off Jason Vargas (7-12) the next time up.

Royals 2, Indians 1

At Cleveland, Bruce Chen overcame a shaky first inning to win his career-high fifth straight start and led the Kansas City Royals over the Cleveland Indians. Chen (10-5) allowed the first four batters of the game to reach base and walked

Carlos Santana with the bases loaded to force in Cleveland's only run. The left-hander, who allowed five hits in 7 1-3 innings, is 4-0 in his last five starts against the Indians. Mike Moustakas' RBI single broke a 1-1 tie in the third for the Royals, who held on to win after losing late leads in the first two games of the series. Joakim Soria pitched a perfect ninth for his 24th save. Justin Masterson (10-8) allowed two runs in six innings and lost for the first time since July 24. □

WNBA Capsules

Augustus, Moore lead Lynx over Silver Stars

By The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Seimone Augustus scored 20 points and Maya Moore added 19 as the Minnesota Lynx clinched the top seed in the Western Conference with a 72-61 victory over the San Antonio Silver Stars on Sunday. Minnesota (23-6) has won five straight games and swept the season series against San Antonio. It's the first time in franchise history that the Lynx have earned the top seed in the West.

Ronneka Hodges led San Antonio (13-15) with 12 points, hitting 4 of 8 3-pointers. Jia Perkins and Tully Bevilaqua added 10 each for the Silver Stars, who have lost six straight.

Over their last 12 games, the Silver Stars have lost 10 while the Lynx have won 10. San Antonio started the season 5-1 but is now 5-11, 1 1/2 games up on Los Angeles for the No. 4 seed in the West.

Shock 83, Sun 72

TULSA, Okla. (AP)—Sheryl Swoopes scored 22 points to help Tulsa get its second straight win following a WNBA-record 20-game losing streak.

Ivory Latta had 19 points and Tiffany Jackson added



Minnesota Lynx's Seimone Augustus looks for room around San Antonio Silver Stars' Jia Perkins during first half of a WNBA basketball game Sunday Aug. 28, 2011 at the AT&T Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Associated Press

16 points and 12 rebounds for her eighth double-double of the season as the Shock (3-25) won consecutive games for just the second time since moving to Tulsa before last season. Tina Charles had 21 points and 10 rebounds to lead Connecticut (18-11). Renee

Montgomery added 12 points.

The Shock, coming off a 77-75 win at Los Angeles on Friday night, last won consecutive games on May 29 and June 4 last year.

Tulsa rallied from 15 points down early in the third period, using a 21-9 run over

the final 6:48 to tie the score at 59-all.

Mercury 86, Mystics 79

WASHINGTON (AP)—Candice Dupree scored a season-high 27 points and Diana Taurasi finished with 21 points as Phoenix snapped a two-game losing streak. The Mercury (16-12) scored the game's first points, led 11-1 less than 3 minutes in, and by 16 points in the first quarter.

Phoenix, which led 43-34 at halftime, opened the second half with a 13-0 run to extend the advantage to 22 points.

Matee Ajavon's 3-pointer with 13.8 seconds remaining capped a 16-4 run over the final 4 minutes to pull the Mystics to 84-79, but Taurasi followed with two free throws.

Crystal Langhorne had 27 points and 12 rebounds for the Mystics (5-23), who have lost eighth straight—matching the third-longest streak in franchise history.

Sky 74, Liberty 73

ROSEMONT, Ill. (AP)—Epiphanny Prince hit a 3-pointer with 31 seconds remaining to lift Chicago.

Sylvia Fowles and Erin Thorn scored 17 points each to lead the Sky (14-15), and Prince finished with 10 points. □

Martin wins 9th Vuelta stage, Mollema new leader

SIERRA DE BEJAR, Spain (AP)—Irish rider Daniel Martin won the ninth stage of the Spanish Vuelta on Sunday, while Dutchman Bauke Mollema took the overall leader's jersey from Joaquin Rodriguez by just one second.

Martin edged past Mollema to finish the 114-mile mountain course from Villacastin to Sierra de Bejar in 4 hours, 52 minutes, 14 seconds.

"I am very happy for me and the team, which worked very hard," Martin said about his Garmin-Cervelo team. "The win was blowing in our face, making it hard to climb." The brutal 1-kilometer final climb with slopes that reached 16 percent to the finish line tightened the overall standings with Mollema one second ahead of Rodriguez and nine seconds in front of defending champion Vincenzo Nibali. Despite taking the leader's jersey, Mollema was not completely pleased with his performance.

"When I crossed the finish line I was upset with myself because I had the legs to win the stage and that was my goal, even though I knew Daniel Martin was fast," Mollema said. "Afterward I found out I was the overall leader, but my goal was to win the stage."

Swedish rider Fredrik Kessiakoff is only 18 seconds off the pace, while Juan Jose Cabo of Spain is 46 seconds be-



Garmin team rider Daniel Martin from Ireland celebrates on the podium after winning the 9th stage of the Spanish Vuelta cycling race over 183 kilometers (113.7 miles) with the start in Villacastin and finish in Sierra de Bejar, Spain, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

Associated Press

hind the leader after finishing the stage in third place. Monday's 10th stage is a 29-mile time trial in the medieval city of Salamanca.

"I am going to fight to keep the leader's jersey in the race (on Monday)," Mollema said. "It is too early to know how far I can go, but the time trial tomorrow is going to be tough for me despite my good form." □

Key Olympic basketball qualifiers start this week

BRIAN MAHONEY**AP Basketball Writer**

Perennial world basketball powers Spain and Argentina can lock up spots in the 2012 Olympics through regional qualifying tournaments that begin this week. Two spots are available in EuroBasket and another pair in the FIBA Americas tournament. The winner and runner-up in each event will clinch berths in London next July.

Three teams have also secured their places in the 12-team field. The defending Olympic champion U.S. was the first by winning the world championship last summer in Turkey. Britain later was awarded an automatic berth by FIBA, basketball's world governing body, as the Olympic host, and Tunisia became the first surprise team by knocking off Angola on Sunday to win the African title.

Spain, the reigning European champion, returns Pau and Marc Gasol, and much of the core of the team that won the 2006 world championship and finished second to the Americans in the 2008 Olympics. The Spaniards also added more inside strength with Oklahoma City's Serge Ibaka, a native of the Republic of Congo who played for Spanish clubs for three years, but must navigate a difficult 24-team field in Lithuania. "The preparation has been good," Spain coach Sergio Scariolo told FIBA.com after a recent exhibition victory over Australia.

"We faced the best European teams and with the exception of two or three (games), they have been high-level rivals that have tested us in most games, although we won almost all of them." Despite the NBA lockout, many teams were able to secure insurance to cover their players in case of injury, allowing top players such as NBA finals MVP Dirk Nowitzki (Germany) and Tony Parker (France) to suit up. □



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Bolt false starts and is eliminated from 100 final

RAF CASERT
AP Sports Writer

DAEGU, South Korea (AP)

— Usain Bolt again did the unbelievable when it mattered most in the 100 meters.

This time, no gold medal or world record, but a false start and straight elimination from the world championships in a race he has regally reigned over for three years.

In a stunning few seconds, Bolt's showboating turned into real-life despair when he jumped the gun and was led away from the track before Jamaican teammate Yohan Blake won gold ahead of American rival Walter Dix.

"Looking for tears?" Bolt asked as a small group of reporters followed him around. "Not going to happen."

Bolt was in no mood to talk, and instead of wide smiles, he snapped at anyone who tried to ask him about the disqualification.

While everyone had been wondering what Bolt would do to his world record of 9.58 seconds, it was Blake who won his first 100 title with a slow time of 9.92, the only racer to break 10 seconds in the final.

Dix took silver in 10.08 and Kim Collins of Saint Kitts and Nevis was third in 10.09.

"I didn't really think they were going to kick him out," Dix said. "How can you kick Usain out of the race?"

Another person who knows that feeling is double-amputee sprinter Oscar Pistorius. The South African was kept from competing by the IAAF until the Court of Arbitration for Sport overturned the ruling shortly before the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

On Sunday, he bounced on his carbon-fiber blades, ran



Jamaica's Yohan Blake, right, crosses the finish line to win ahead of USA's Walter Dix, front left, in the Men's 100m final at the World Athletics Championships in Daegu, South Korea, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

Associated Press



USA's Trey Hardee celebrates after winning the Decathlon at the World Athletics Championships in Daegu, South Korea, Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011.

Associated Press

past several able-bodied runners and qualified for the semifinals of the 400 in a historic breakthrough for Paralympic athletes.

Like always, though, Bolt found a way to capture all the attention. And for once in his golden career, he was not play-acting.

Instead of beating the clock, he beat the starting gun. Three steps into his race after the gun blasted, Bolt's face turned into a primal scream. And in one instinctive move he started pulling off his Jamaica shirt, needing no one to tell him he had made the biggest error in his career.

He was shown the red card and led to the sideline.

"I was so surprised because we have been talking about that in training and now it happens," Blake said.

After the second gun signaled the false start, Bolt gritted his teeth in self disgust and threw up his arms in desperation. Hands

over his head, he walked away before slamming the blue stadium wall.

All dreams of a third golden triple in as many major championships were gone, and he had no one to blame but himself. One year ahead of the London Olympics, the world championships showed him as human instead of an infallible sporting superstar. At the 2008 Olympics,

Bolt performed beyond expectations by getting three sprint gold medals and as many world records. One year later at the world championships in Berlin, he did the same with three more titles. Only because his Jamaican 4x100 relay team ran the second fastest race in history was he denied another three world records.

So by now, even with a

disappointing season, no one knew what to expect — except it would be another victory on Sunday. Instead, they saw Bolt do what the 25-year-old Jamaican had never done at a major meet — he lost the cool which made him famous.

Bolt's error will again raise questions about the rule change in 2010 that cut out the allowance to one false start. In the semifinals, world indoor sprint champion Dwain Chambers was also eliminated because of false start.

While everyone expects Bolt to win everything, Pistorius surprised many by getting to the semifinals.

The South African recovered from his traditional slow start to power through the final bend and finishing straight to take third place in the final heat of the event. His time of 45.39 seconds was the 14th best of all competitors.

"It has been phenomenal to run," Pistorius said.

In the tough outside lane, he had to count on a big move in the second half of the race and with 50 meters to go, five runners were still in it for the four automatic semifinal places. Pistorius dipped at the line for third behind Bahamian winner Chris Brown.

Now, some suddenly see him as the direct rival he has become and the competitive threat he now poses.

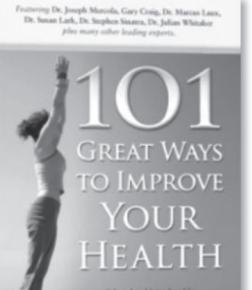
"No one wants to get beat by him," Brown said. "Me, definitely, I don't want to get beat by him."

Later Sunday, Kenenisa Bekele failed to win a fifth 10,000 world title in a row, a feat which would have pushed him past his illustrious Ethiopian compatriot Haile Gebrselassie. □

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Here's to your health, so they claim...

NATASHA SINGER

© 2011 New York Times

BOSTON — Dr. Pieter Cohen is scanning the shelves inside a shop in Chinatown here when something familiar — and potentially dangerous — catches his eye.

"What's that yellow box, behind the other one?" Cohen asks the clerk. It is Pai You Guo, a supposedly natural weight-loss supplement from China that, according to federal authorities, has tested positive in the past for containing two hazardous drugs, including a suspected carcinogen. The product was recalled in 2009. One of Cohen's patients in the Boston area ended up in the hospital last year with a range of ailments after taking Pai You Guo, a brand-name that, loosely translated from Chinese, means "the fruit that eliminates fat."

But he has seen worse: kidney failure, heart problems, depression, addiction — all, he says, caused by tainted products sold openly as dietary supplements in shops across the nation and on the Internet.

"My patients are being harmed by this," says Cohen, an internist at the nearby Cambridge

Health Alliance and an assistant professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. Marketing drugs in the guise of supplements is illegal in the United States.

example — acknowledge that they are reluctant to raise too many alarms. Even though there is little evidence that many dietary supplements provide real health ben-

ket research firm. Many millions more are also being spent annually on black-market products, particularly those marketed for weight loss, bodybuilding and sexual

**Naara Ramos, who ended up hospitalized after using weight-loss products, with a version of a product she used, Pai You Guo, at her physician's exam room in Somerville, Mass., Aug. 9, 2011. Drugs marketed in the guise of supplements may contain dangerous amphetamines, synthetic steroids, laxatives and other prohibited compounds.**

(Gretchen Ertl/The New York Times)

Tainted Pai You Guo is just one small part of that global business. Federal authorities are struggling to identify and intercept these black-market goods, which, they warn, pose grave health risks. The makers of legal dietary supplements — the kind found at GNC, for

fits, legal supplements, from multivitamins to ginkgo biloba, are a big and growing business. Americans spent \$28.1 billion on them last year, up from \$21.3 billion five years ago, according to estimates from Nutrition Business Journal, a mar-

enhancement. Some of these products, according to the FDA, contain amphetamines, synthetic steroids, laxatives and compounds like the active drug in Viagra. Officials say such products can cause heart attacks and strokes, and can

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damage the kidneys and liver. A few people in the U.S., they say, have died after taking them. Industry representatives say a vast majority of supplements are safe, and they fault regulators for failing to stop the influx of illegal products from places like China. But few seem willing to tackle the problem openly. Unlike, say, the fashion industry, which has lobbied for increased regulation to combat knock-off products and has vociferously publicized the issue, the supplement industry is at best waging a whisper campaign.

"We walk a fine line," says Steve Mister, president of the Council for Responsible Nutrition, a trade group in Washington that represents supplement manufacturers and ingredient suppliers. "We want to protect consumers, but we also don't want to alarm consumers so they stay away from the whole marketplace."

Mister says legitimate manufacturers ensure product safety. Under federal law, supplements are defined as products that contain only supplemental dietary ingredients, like vitamins and minerals. People who knowingly make or distribute products spiked with drugs, he says, are outliers. His group recommends that people buy nationally recognized brands — like Centrum, One A Day and Nature Made — from its members and avoid those that make miracle claims. □

Invention site Quirky finds genius in the masses

JAKE COYLE

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — At first glance, the offices of Quirky Inc. appear much like those of any number of Internet startups.

A mostly young staff of 50 sits in front of computer screens. Bikes, ridden to work, hang from the ceiling. A young visionary sets an eager, nontraditional vibe. The rolling toilet, though, is a clue that Quirky is a bit different.

Quirky is an invention website that takes ideas from its online community and makes them into real consumer products. Ben Kaufman, 24, founded the Manhattan-based Quirky two years ago with the aim of making invention accessible.

Though it uses the en-vogue model of crowd-sourcing, it still relies on nuts-and-bolts creation of tangible goods. Beyond Quirky's rows of desks lurks a design shop, complete with a 3-D printer and various work-shopped inventions, along with the curious leftovers of development.

"We're probably the most old-school startup you could possibly imagine," says Kaufman, whose drive and know-how far out-



In this image released by the Sundance Channel, Ben Kaufman, founder and CEO of Quirky, left, is shown with co-worker Gaz Brown, center, and product inventor Jon Corral as they work on a product called Aprí, a type of can opener, in a scene from the original series, "Quirky." The series premieres Aug. 30, 2011 at 10 p.m. EST on Sundance Channel.

Associated Press

weigh his age. "We manufacture products. We put them on a boat. We ship them to retailers."

The very concept of ocean freight is enough to make most Silicon Valley upstarts shiver. But Quirky is finding the kind of success startups dream of, while still keeping its feet in real-world production.

It recently picked up \$16 million in financing from Norwest Venture Partners.

Kaufman expects the site to be profitable by next year. They are readying a move this year to a larger warehouse across town. And on Tuesday, the Sundance Channel will premiere "Quirky," a six-episode reality series that documents the fast-paced life at Quirky.

"There's a difference between your crazy scientist garage inventor and regular people," says Kaufman.

"Regular people experience problems on an everyday basis that piss them off. Those are what I think are everywhere. That's what Quirky is here to achieve, to capture those problems, those opportunities, and turn them into products."

Ever thought you could invent a more ergonomic dog leash? Or create a power strip that has room for boxy plug-ins? Those

are the kind of ideas that Quirky has turned into consumer products, splitting the profits with its inventors and members of the community ("influencers") whose tips help shape the final product.

On the site, users vote for the product ideas they like the best. Every Friday, two winners are crowned. Quirky developers create the product, and then it goes into pre-sale. If enough people commit to buying the product, Quirky takes it to market, produced from its manufacturing base in China (where 15 employees work).

Thirty percent of top line revenue on direct sales is shared with the community, as well as 10 percent from indirect sales with partners like Bed Bath & Beyond and the Home Shopping Network.

Those pies are broken up with most going to the original inventor, and various percentages going to those who made critical suggestions.

So Quirky always has products in various stages of development, going from idea to (if they're lucky) store shelves. Two new products are launched every week. □

Irene takes out some East Coast cellphone service

Peter Svensson

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) -- Wireless networks fell quiet Sunday in some coastal areas of North Carolina and southern Virginia, but calls were going through in most areas affected by Tropical Storm Irene, the Federal Communications Commission said. In Lenoir, Greene and Carteret counties of North Carolina, 50 percent to 90 percent of cell towers went offline, said Rear Adm. Jamie Barnett, head of the public safety bureau of the Federal Communications Commission.

About 400 cell towers were offline in North Carolina and Virginia, with power outages the chief reason. Another

200 towers were running on backup power by Saturday night and could go silent as their backup batteries or generators run dry, Barnett said.

Landline phone service failed for about 125,000 households on the coast, the FCC said. Another 250,000 have lost cable service, and some of them could have phone service from the cable company, which would then also be out.

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski said the 911 system has held up well. There were no reports of call-center outages or call congestion, he told The Associated Press.

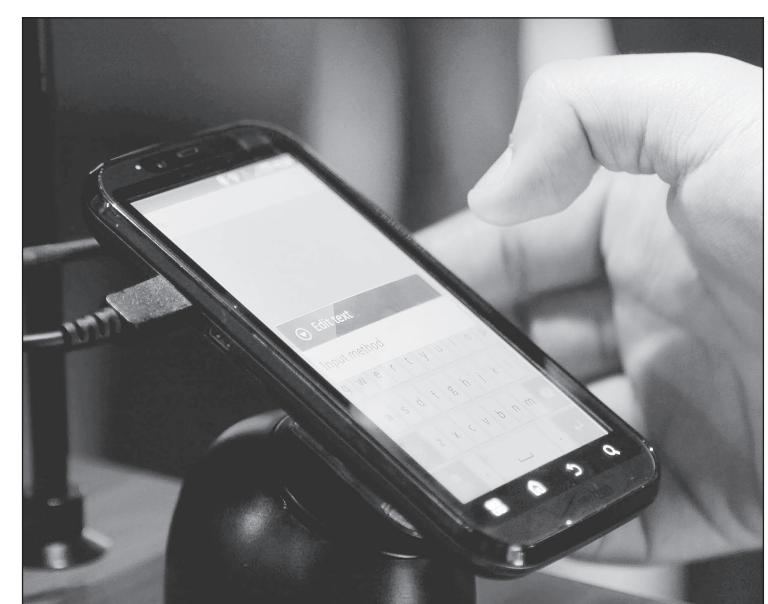
Public-safety networks for

police, firefighters and ambulance crews also were working.

Networks in the biggest population center in the path of the storm, the greater New York metropolitan area, were largely spared.

And Verizon Wireless spokesman Thomas Pica said most of its customers haven't experienced any disruptions.

"The Verizon Wireless network continues to perform well all along the East Coast, including in the many affected communities," Pica said in an emailed statement. "Some cell sites in communities that have lost commercial power are operating on our own emer-



In this Jan. 6, 2011 file photo, a buyer tests Motorola's Droid Bionic 4G phone at the Consumer Electronics Show, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

gency backup generators to help us continue providing wireless service to our customers."

In New York City itself, Barnett said, only 1 percent of cell towers went off the air. Time Warner Cable Inc.,

one of the city's two cable companies, said it had reports of sporadic outages. Verizon Communications Inc., the local phone company, was running some switching centers on backup power. □

Before Jobs, Sam Walton and Bill Gates took exits

CHRISTINA REXRODE

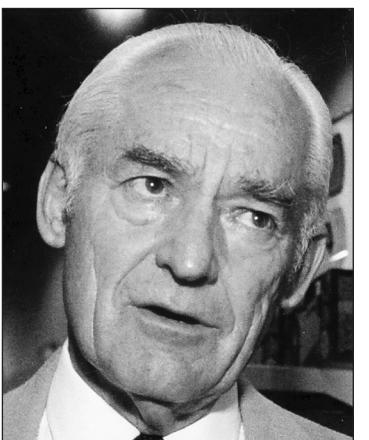
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — As CEOs, Sam Walton, Bill Gates and Steve Jobs possessed common traits. They were tireless workers, demanding bosses and sticklers for detail. They were visionaries, too, who reshaped their respective industries.

Their companies faced similar challenges when their iconic leaders left the helm. Wal-Mart Stores Inc., post Walton, has grown while carrying on with many of his traditions, including the hokey Wal-Mart cheer. Microsoft Corp. carefully orchestrated Gates' departure over a two-year period to dampen the shock, but has since struggled to innovate. And now Apple Inc. is grappling with how to continue without Jobs, who after battling with health issues announced Wednesday he would step down and Tim Cook would run the company.

Some analysts believe Apple will have a rough time without Jobs. His showmanship is essential since he was selling products that people might want but don't really need, said Charles Fishman, author of "The Wal-Mart Effect."

"Wal-Mart was reliant on Sam's genius and insight — his charisma was a bonus," Fishman said. "The products that Steve Jobs is selling, you need charisma to sell them." Many companies have foundered with-



In this July 7, 1984 file photo, the late Sam Walton, left, founder of Bentonville, Ark., -based Wal-Mart, talks to reporters in Little Rock, Ark. As CEOs, Walton, above, and Steve Jobs possessed common traits. Their companies also faced similar challenges when their iconic leaders left the helm. Wal-Mart, post Walton, has grown while carrying on with many of his traditions, including the Wal-Mart cheer.

Associated Press

out their founder. Starbucks Corp., for instance, had to bring back Howard Schultz to revitalize the brand, and Dell Inc. did the same with Michael Dell. Companies whose net worth is tied up in their CEO, instead of the product, are the most vulnerable. Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., for example, has made an annual profit only once since 2003, when its namesake leader was charged with securities fraud.

Apple is not quite so tied to its non-eponymous

leader, some analysts say. Apple fans tend to want their iPhones, iPods and iPads simply because they think the product is superior — not because of Jobs' dramatic unveilings. So, if Apple can continue to introduce the best products, then it doesn't matter if it's Jobs or someone else is at the helm, they said. "The products speak for themselves," said Paul Argenti, a professor at Dartmouth College. One reason that companies like Wal-Mart and Microsoft have endured,

analysts say, is that their founders weren't afraid to surround themselves with other strong leaders. That meant they left behind teams that could function without them. Gates, for instance, "used to get into screaming matches with some of his employees," said James Wallace, the author of two books about Gates, "Hard Drive" and "Overdrive." "But he was looking for people who were willing to stand up and scream back," Wallace said.

Dave Thomas, the founder of the Wendy's hamburger chain, was constantly preparing Wendy's for the day when he'd leave, which made the transition smooth when he relinquished his daily responsibilities around the late '80s, said Denney Lynch, a company spokesman who traveled with Thomas for 20 years. "He was a man with a 10th grade education who surrounded himself with MBAs," Lynch said. "He understood the things he could do well and the things he couldn't." How Apple will fare without Jobs remains to be seen. But companies like Microsoft and Wal-Mart can provide some clues. Sam Walton, Wal-Mart founder Walton's no-frills influence is still a part of the culture at Wal-Mart even though he relinquished the CEO role in 1988 and died four

years later at age 74. The strategy, for the most part, has served the company well.

Mike Hicks, a Ball State economist and author of "The Local Economic Impact of Wal-Mart", noted how Wal-Mart has expanded in the past two decades while many other discount chains, such as Kmart and A&P, have struggled. Wal-Mart had nearly \$420 billion in revenue last year, more than seven times the \$55 billion it netted in 1992, when Walton died.

"A lot of companies grow with one visionary guy," Hicks said. "What is striking about Wal-Mart is that it continued to do so shockingly well after his death." Walton's image can be found throughout the corporate culture. The original Walton's Five and Dime is now the company's visitor center.

It's a shrine to the founder, showing off the 1979 Ford F150 pickup truck he used to drive to work. And although current CEO Mike Duke didn't join the company until 1995, three years after Walton's death, he mentioned the founder's name at least four times at the annual shareholders' meeting in June. He also quoted from Walton's autobiography, "Sam Walton: Made in America."

Wal-Mart officials have learned the price of straying away from some of Walton's key principles. □

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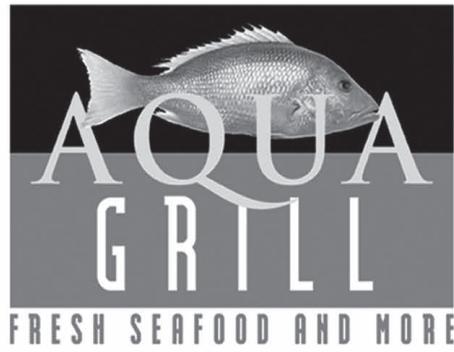
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New York Stock Exchange ready for trading Monday

CANDICE CHOI

CHIP CUTTER

AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — The opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange will ring on time Monday.

Operators of the historic Big Board and other major U.S. exchanges said they plan to open for trading as usual. Their announcements came after city officials said damage from Tropical Storm Irene wasn't as severe as feared in New York's financial district.

How all the people who work at the exchanges and related businesses in New York will make it to work remained a puzzle late Sunday. Limited bus service resumed in Manhattan and the Bronx Sunday evening, but it wasn't clear the city's subways and buses would be running normally in time for Monday's morning commute. And flooding and downed trees obstructed tracks throughout the commuter rail systems that bring workers in from the Connecticut, New York and New Jersey suburbs.

The nation's largest mass transit system shut down ahead of the storm, and hundreds of thousands of city residents were ordered to leave threatened areas. Mayor Michael Bloomberg lifted the evacuation order for downtown Manhattan, effective 3 p.m.

Weather has shut down or delayed the opening of the stock markets about two dozen times in the past. The most recent weather delay occurred Jan. 8, 1996, when the New York Stock Exchange opened 90 minutes late, at 11 a.m., due to a snowstorm. The New York

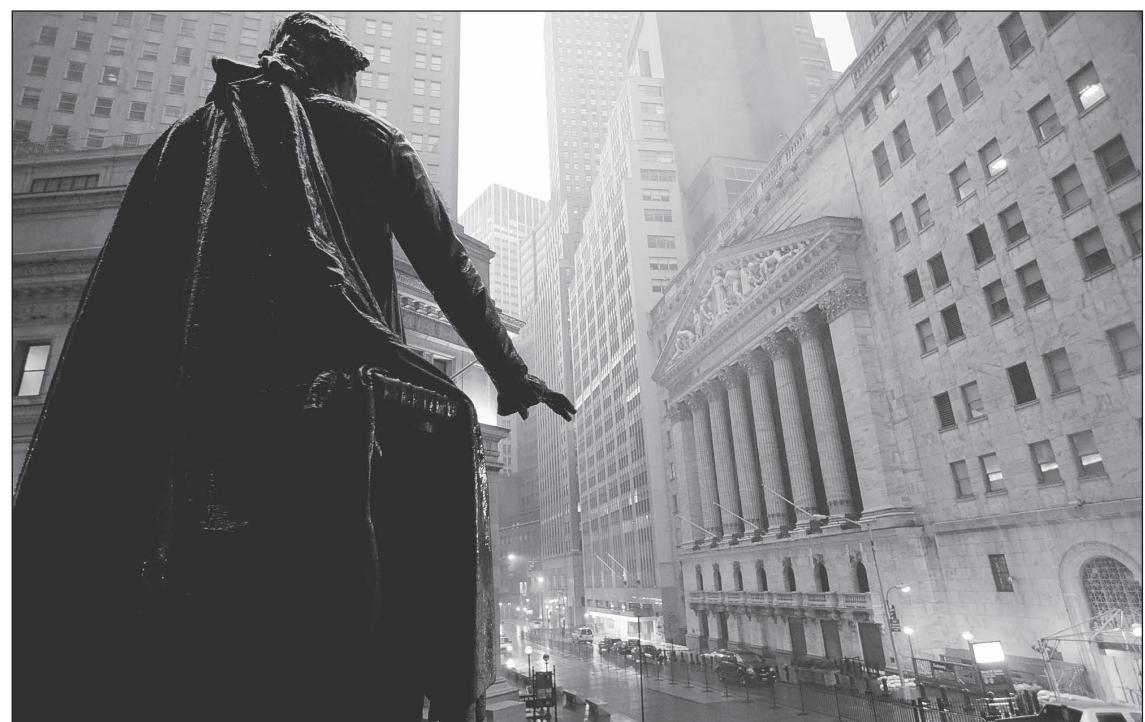
Stock Exchange also closes for nine holidays a year when stock markets around the world are open.

The exchanges help link buyers and sellers of stocks and other investments like commodities. So they're essential to making the world's financial markets work.

Over the years, the weather has become less of a concern for markets because computerized trading has cut the need for live brokers, who used to shout all their orders out in person on the floor of major exchanges.

When broker Peter Tuchman started working on the New York Stock Exchange 25 years ago, he said there were about 1,500 traders on the floor and all transactions were made through "open outcry and paper." Now he said there are just about 350 brokers on the floor. Because most transactions are electronic, the major exchanges said they were prepared to open Monday even if the storm's impact had been severe.

The New York Stock Exchange said that, if it faced flooding and power outages, it could have used its electronic exchange, the NYSE Arca in Chicago. The NYSE acquired that exchange in 2006 and offers trading through it in more than 8,000 stocks and options. Nasdaq OMX Group Inc. spokesman Frank DeMaria said it could have handled trading through its exchange in Stockholm, Sweden, and additional centers in the U.S. Nasdaq, which is based in Lower Manhattan but conducts its opening and closing bell



The New York Stock Exchange is shown early Sunday, Aug. 28, 2011, in New York.

Associated Press

from a television studio in New York's Times Square, already is all electronic, so it doesn't even have a trading floor.

The owners of the New York Mercantile Exchange, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade also expect to open normally. Those exchanges handle the buying and selling of commodities and derivatives.

The question that weighed on the minds of exchange operators the past few days was not whether they technically could open. They wondered, Would it make sense to open? If there was significant damage on the East Coast, executives figured that many investors would be more focused on repairing their homes than on buying and selling stocks.

"If large swaths of your membership ... can't participate in your marketplace, you have to give

some real serious thought to how healthy the market would be if you would open," said Eric Noll, executive vice president of transaction services at Nasdaq.

Executives from the major exchanges held a conference call Sunday afternoon with Securities and Exchange Commission officials and decided it was best to open. SEC spokesman John Nester said in an email that the exchanges' decision to open was made "in consultation with the SEC following a series of discussions throughout the weekend."

The NYSE said its building on Wall Street near the southern tip of Manhattan and the systems inside are in working order.

Investment banks that have offices downtown also said they would operate as usual Monday, even if employees had to work from home or find alternative ways to get to the office.

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. spokesman Stephen Cohen said the firm's headquarters wasn't significantly affected by the storm, and "we'll be open for business," although he declined to be more specific. □

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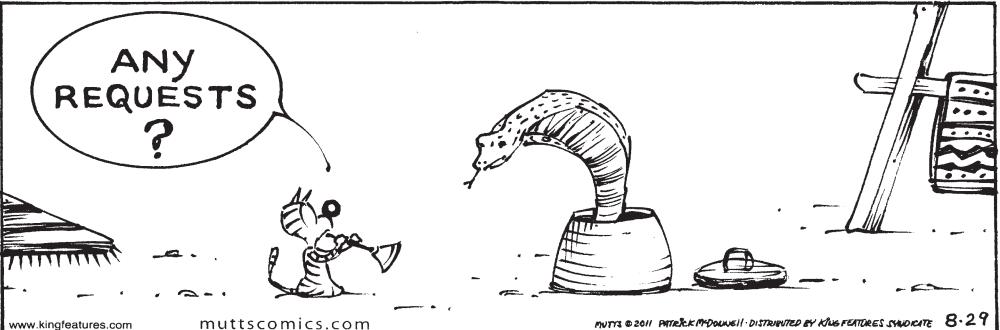
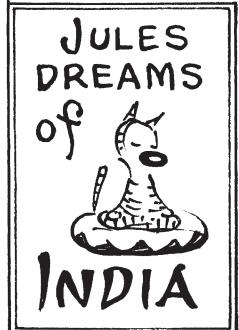
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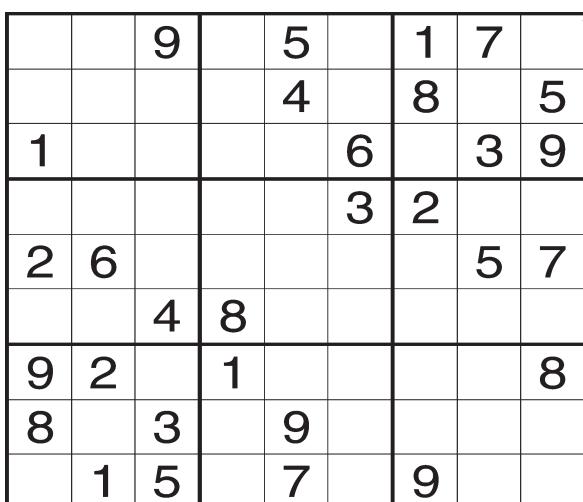
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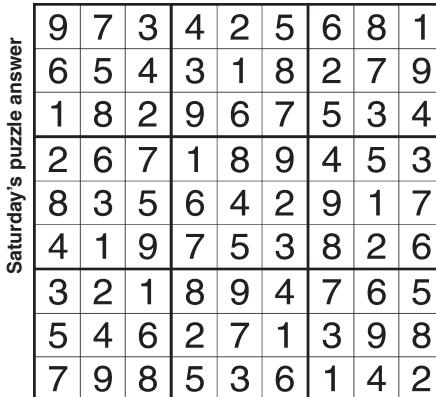


Difficulty Level ★

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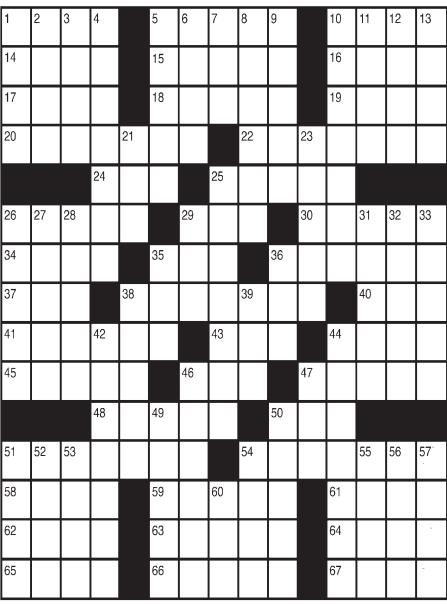
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Blondie



Saturday's puzzle answer

Mother Goose & Grimm



Saturday's Puzzle Solved



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ACROSS
1 Declare openly
5 ___ Day; tree-planting holiday
10 Exhibition
14 Actress Turner
15 Impoverished
16 Corn bread
17 Compassion
18 New Delhi, ___
19 Portable Apple media player
20 Most unhurried
22 Unity
24 Sense of amazement
25 Suffragette ___ B. Anthony
26 In the know
29 Schoolkids' transport
30 Sea World critters
34 Hairless on top
35 ___-been; one no longer popular
36 Of the skin
37 Unusual
38 Is important
40 Lofty poem
41 Went off course
43 Hardly ___; few
44 Had regrets
45 Miscalculated
46 Auction offer
47 Deserves
48 Poultry shop purchase
50 Tub; cistern
51 ___ and dealied; was shrewd in business
54 Filthier
58 Clutch
59 Equestrian
61 ___ about; sing the praises of
62 Qualified
63 Frosting
64 Elderly
65 Playwright Hart
66 Slowly, in music
67 Very small lake

DOWN
1 "Heidi" setting
2 Colorado resort
3 Climb ___; mount
4 Disobedient
5 Licorice-like flavoring
6 "For ___," landlord's sign
7 Twin, queen, or California king
8 Hatful
9 Meg and Nolan
10 Board game's movable arrow
11 Light at the end of the tunnel
12 Yoko & others
13 Marries
21 Lamb's mother
23 ___ up; relaxes
25 Keep up
26 Over
27 Egret or crane
28 Birch variety
29 Baseball stick
31 Love, in France
32 ___ with; toting
33 Luge vehicles
35 Owned

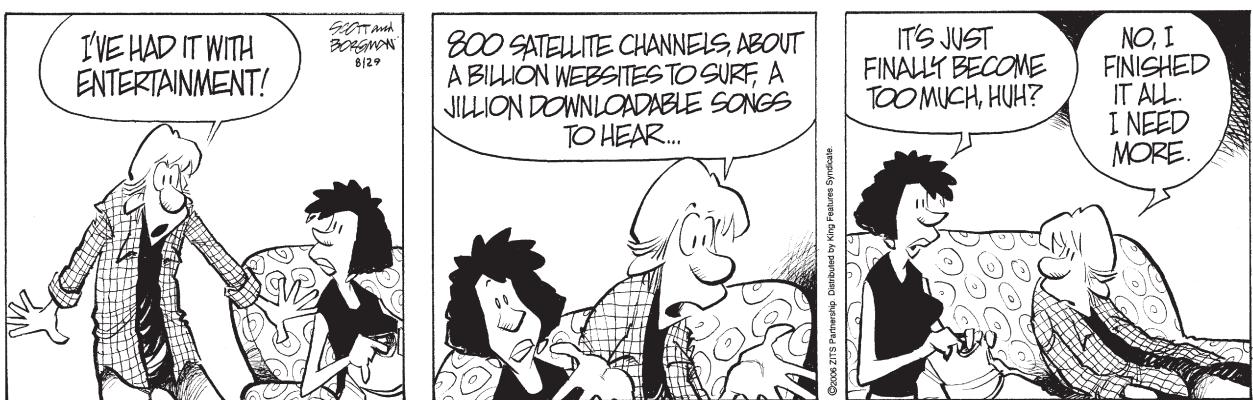
36 Arid
38 Olympics prize
39 Finish
42 Flows back
44 Dilapidated hut
46 Upper part of a dress
47 Hearing organ
49 Danger

50 Zodiac sign
51 Impact's sound
52 Tramp
53 Building wings
54 Fender blemish
55 Dramatic villain
56 Fair; balanced
57 Actor ___ Foxx
60 Noise

Baby Blues



Zits



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Wk 8 Studio

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WK 2, \$12,995 2BR Pool

WK 4, \$12,995 2BR Pool

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Wk 8 \$12,000 2BR Pool*

Wk 9 \$8,500 1BR Garden*

Wk 9 \$12,000 1BR Pool*

Wk 10, \$6,500 1BR Garden

Wk 14, \$13,000 2BR Pool*

Wk 24 \$1,860 Studio

Wk 19, 3,15 1BR Garden

Wk 20, \$4,200 1BR Pool

Wk 31 \$1,920 1BR

(Even Yr.)

Wk 32 \$7,200 2BR Pool

Wk 38 \$6,600 2BR Pool

Wk 42 \$4,500 1BR Pool

Wk 45 \$11,000 2BR

Pool*

Wk 46 \$10,000 2BR Pool*

Wk 47 \$10,000 2BR Pool*

Wk 47 \$20,000

Penthouse*

Wk 48 \$10,000 2BR Pool*

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San Nicolas

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 BGD San Nicolas 584-1606
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"Porgy and Bess": a classic still vexes as it pleases

ZACHARY WOOLFE

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LENOX, Mass. — On Friday evening a hurricane raged toward the Atlantic coast. At the same time, one roared onstage here at the Tanglewood Festival, threatening the lives of the inhabitants of Catfish Row, the South Carolina ghetto that is the setting of George Gershwin's opera "Porgy and Bess."

Or rather, was supposed to roar. Like the performance as a whole, the storm in this "Porgy" passed pleasantly and picturesquely. There wasn't anything really wrong with it, but neither was there anything especially gripping or moving. It was hard to tell on Friday how the work — 76 years old, an accepted classic — still gets people so riled up. Both tuneful and bracing, a kind of amalgam of Bizet's "Carmen" and Berg's "Wozzeck," "Porgy and Bess" is at the center of issues that continue to vex us: race, for one thing, and the confusion of genres. Is the work an opera or a musical? Are its characters underdrawn ciphers or larger-than-life archetypes? These questions have been loudly revived by a debate that has broken out over a new production, directed by Diane Paulus in Cambridge, Mass., that is expected to move to Broadway in December.

In a New York Times article this month Paulus and her collaborators, including the playwright Suzan-Lori Parks, highlighted the weaknesses they saw in the work, particularly what Parks called "cardboard cut-out characters." In the process of "excavating and shaping and modernizing the story," as Paulus put it, to sell it as a commercial musical, they planned to create scenes, adjust the dialogue, invent some back stories and interpolate a more hopeful ending. In a stinging, widely read letter to the editor of The Times, Stephen Sondheim shot back that "there is a difference between re-interpretation and wholesale rewriting."

The Tanglewood "Porgy"

— performed concert-style, with no costumes and very limited staging — wasn't part of this controversy, but it made clear that the work is not a mistake to be fixed but a challenge to be met. Its characters are indeed broadly drawn, as any opera's are. Their depths are expressed through Gershwin's omnivorous, dazzling music rather than solely through the text, and the challenge for performers is a typically operatic one: endowing archetypes with life and individuality. Porgy in particular seems to have a dully consistent saintliness. But on Friday the

despair: tiny moments and inflections that created a rounded portrayal. You were reminded how powerful performances fill out operatic characters, which become more than the sum of their parts.

When Sportin' Life (the vibrant Jermaine Smith) first tempts Bess (the smooth, occasionally vague Laquita Mitchell) with a move to New York, she answers, "I ain't come to that yet," and the line is set with a broken syncopation, over ominous strings and brass stabs, that speaks, far more eloquently than the line itself, to both her fragility and

instantly becomes human. It's far more interesting and ultimately rewarding for a performer and a director to search out the fullness of the character in these elusive corners of the score than to dismiss that score as insufficient.

What the score also was on Friday evening was incomplete. Gershwin and his writing partners were men of the theater, amenable to cuts and adjustments, and there is no grail-like "true" text. But while some of the changes early in the work's history seem to have been made for dramaturgical reasons, many others were

sparing Porgy yet another strenuous aria (the gloomy "Buzzard Song") in Act II when he would have had to sing it eight times a week. With such a distinguished orchestra as the Boston Symphony and in a classical music setting like Tanglewood, the edition could have been more comprehensive. The standard cuts that were made for the original New York production in 1935 were retained on Friday, and others were added. "Porgy" is an example of an opera in which shorter does not always feel shorter: the cuts paradoxically make the piece more unwieldy and less organic. Taking out Porgy's "Buzzard Song," for example, removes the first swerve of the plot toward real darkness, sapping urgency from the dramatic arc.

That arc wasn't helped by the performance. While the Boston Symphony played with its customary sheen under Bramwell Tovey, there wasn't enough bite. The seizing music as Bess returns to Crown was rhythmically correct but didn't simmer. And the Tanglewood Festival Chorus was perfectly diaphanous in the vocalizing that supports the opening rendition of "Summertime" (sweetly floated by Nicole Cabell), but its intensity waned during the Act I funeral scene.

The problem was epitomized by the Serena of Marquita Lister, an elegant singer who delivered a pretty, polite "My Man's Gone Now." □



Jermaine Smith and the Boston Symphony performing "Porgy and Bess" at the Tanglewood Festival in Lenox, Mass., on Aug. 26, 2011. George Gershwin's 76-year-old work was performed concert-style, with no costumes and limited staging.

(Michael J. Lutch/The New York Times)

bass-baritone Alfred Walker gave him a wide-eyed edge of loneliness, even

her dignity. This nominally unsympathetic character, a sleaze and a drug addict,

made for logistical ones, like sparing the audience a four-hour evening and

Winehouse tribute to highlight VMA awards

NEKESA MOODY

AP Music Writer

Amy Winehouse never appeared on the MTV Video Music Awards during her short but celebrated career. Still, Sunday's show will take a break from its planned circus atmosphere to pay tribute to the British singer, who died a month ago after years of substance abuse.

Tony Bennett will lead the tribute to Winehouse; her last known recording was with the 85-year-old croon-

er on his upcoming "Duets II" album. There is also word swirling that Winehouse's parents might show, but MTV officials could not confirm their appearance.

The tribute to Winehouse will likely be the rare moment of reverence in a show that is calculated to be as irreverent as possible. This year, the queen of sexy daffiness, Katy Perry, is poised to be the belle of MTV's annual ball: She's up for a leading 10 moonman trophies, including video of

the year for her inspirational "Firework." Another female singer is also a top nominee: Adele, the year's best-selling artist so far with her album "21," is nominated for seven awards for "Rolling in the Deep"; Kanye West also has seven nominations.

West — always good for a colorful MTV moment (ask Taylor Swift) — wasn't listed to perform at the awards, which are being held at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles, broadcast live on MTV. However, E! News reported

that he and mentor Jay-Z will be surprise additions.

Confirmed performers include Lady Gaga, Beyoncé, Lil Wayne, Pitbull and Chris Brown, whose star continues to brighten two years after it was tarnished by his attack on Rihanna.

Celebrities including Selena Gomez, newlywed Kim Kardashian and Seth Rogen were also to take part in the show.

Stars began arriving early: First down the carpet was rapper Kreayshawn. □

“The Tenant:” a mystery is set for a free-range audience

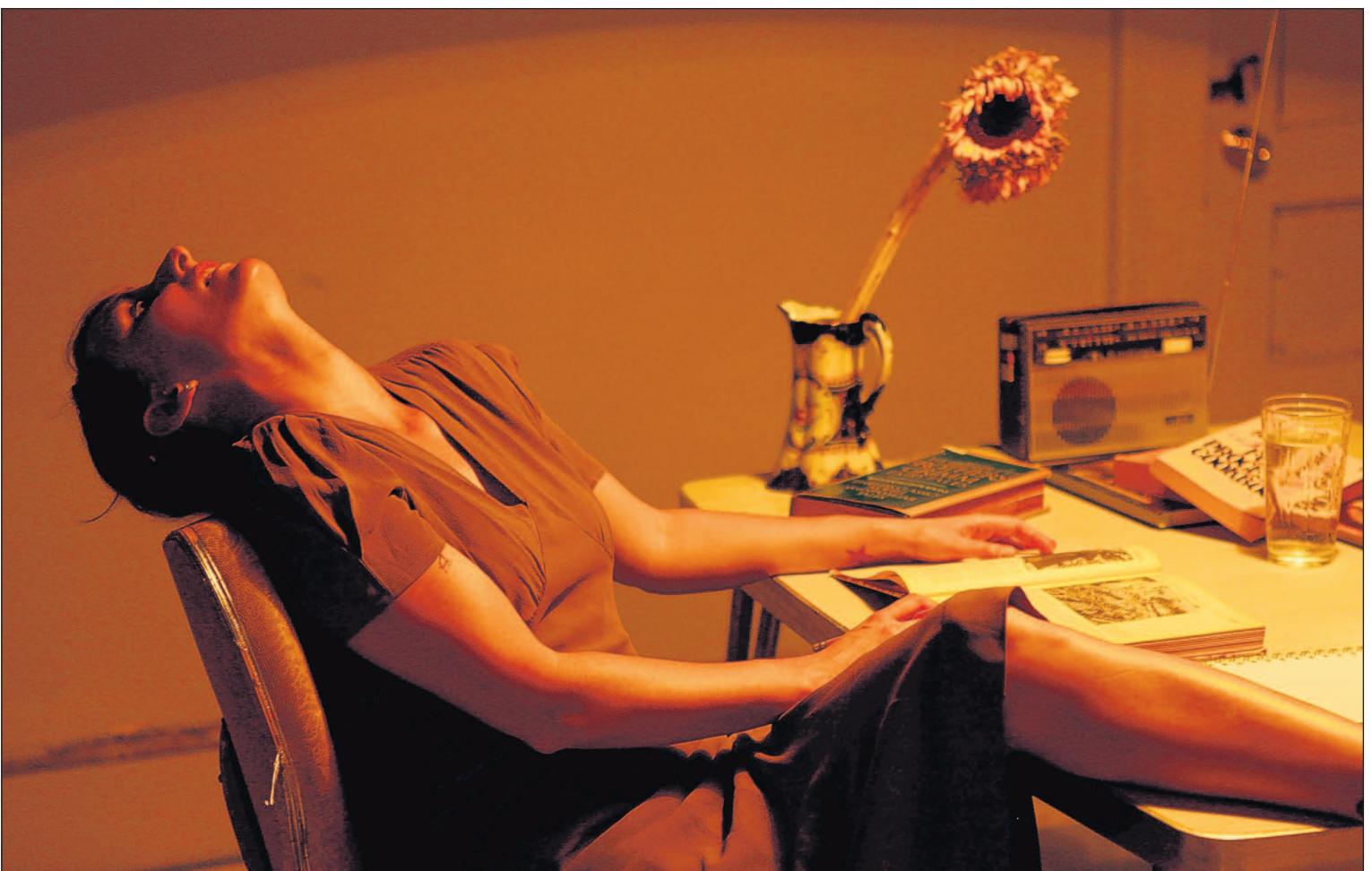
ERIC GRODE

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NEW YORK — Bring comfortable shoes and a high threshold for frustration to the Woodshed Collective's sprawling production “The Tenant,” the latest in a proliferating mini-genre of immersive-spookhouse mood pieces.

As they are at the higher-profile “Sleep No More,” audience members are set loose on multiple stories of a converted building to construct macabre narratives as they see fit, stumbling onto staged vignettes along the way. But unlike “Sleep,” which supplies mandatory white masks, “The Tenant” (originally a 1964 Roland Topor novel, but better known from Roman Polanski’s 1976 film adaptation) allows lurkers and roammers to stare the performers in the face and vice versa, making the voyeuristic kick a bit more complicated. This also makes scuttling out of any given area more awkward when the scripted proceedings grow mannered or banal, but one manages. (“Why did you let them take the baby?” was about all I heard in one room.)

The audience has free rein to explore five floors of the landmark West-Park Presbyterian Church, on West 86th Street, which the directors, Teddy Bergman and Stephen Brackett, have converted into what’s meant to be a down-at-the-heel Paris apartment building. But “The Tenant” has a clear protagonist in its skittish title character, Trelkovsky (Michael Crane), who unravels psychologically shortly after moving into the unit where a suicide had recently taken place. It’s entirely possible to spend the entire two hours tagging along behind Trelkovsky, and Crane, who has



A scene from “The Tenant” in an undated handout photo. For the play, the audience encounters vignettes in rooms of the landmark West-Park Presbyterian Church in New York.

(Emily Fishbaine via The New York Times)



Michael Crane in “The Tenant” in an undated handout photo.

(Emily Fishbaine via The New York Times)

some of Billy Crudup’s compact, cheekbony intensity, is worth the close attention. But what’s the fun in following a straight narrative when a dramaturgical scavenger hunt awaits? Something interesting — or at least loud — always seems to be happening just barely within earshot, and it’s not just the creepy background music by

Duncan Sheik (“Spring Awakening”) and David Van Tieghem. So off we go, in and around the invitingly banged-up building. (The production designer, Gabriel Hainer Evansohn, has worked wonders within with what appears to be a snug budget.) Here we find some two dozen actors playing out scenes by six emerging

writers (Bekah Brunstetter and Steven Levenson are joined by Sarah Burgess, Paul Cohen, Dylan Dawson and Tommy Smith). These scenes range from hypnotic to vapid, with the majority falling in a sort of humdrum middle ground. The action inevitably culminates in the sanctuary itself, after the entire cast has corralled the audience for a finale

that is more ambitious than successful.

The stronger moments in “The Tenant,” those that make the case for this labor-intensive form of play-making and -watching, are those that take place in closer quarters. One inhabitant absent-mindedly bakes macaroons while delivering a monologue about videotaping naked men. A tiny room features a painting of Corduroy the Bear on the wall as well as a sad little checkerboard with bottle caps and eggshell fragments filling in as substitute pieces. A lone tooth sits in a bloody basin in Trelkovsky’s room. You can’t make a fully successful play out of such eye-catching glimpses alone, or at least Woodshed Collective hasn’t. The more interesting stuff always seemed to be happening somewhere else the night I attended. But maybe I just kept missing it. That’s both the problem and the selling point of “The Tenant.” □

Darth Vader vents



MAUREEN DOWD

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Why is it not a surprise to learn that Dick Cheney's ancestor, Samuel Fletcher Cheney, was a Civil War soldier who marched with Sherman to the sea?

Scorched earth runs in the family. Having lost the power to heedlessly bomb the world, Cheney has turned his attention to heedlessly bombing old colleagues.

Vice's new memoir, "In My Time," veers unpleasantly between spin, insisting he was always right, and score-settling, insisting that anyone who opposed him was wrong.

His knife-in-her-teeth daughter, Elizabeth Cheney, helped write the book. The second most famous Liz & Dick combo do such an excellent job of cherry-picking the facts, it makes the cherry-picking on the Iraq War intelligence seem picayune. Cheney may no longer have a pulse, but his blood quickens at the thought of other countries he could have attacked. He salutes in his book about how Syria and Iran could have been punished. Cheney says that in 2007, he told President George W. Bush, who had already been pulled into diplomacy by Condi Rice: "I believed that an important first step would be to destroy the reactor in the Syrian desert."

At a session with most of the National Security Council, he made his case for a strike on the reactor. It would enhance America's tarnished credibility in the Arab world, he argued, (not bothering to mention who tarnished it), and demonstrate the country's "seriousness." By that time, W. had belatedly realized that Cheney was a crank whose bad advice and disdainful rants against "the diplomatic path" and "multilateral action" had pretty much ruined his presidency.

There were few times before the bitter end that W. was willing to stand up to Vice. But the president did make a bold stand on not letting his little dog be gobbled up by Cheney's big dog.

When Vice's 100-pound yel-

low Lab, Dave, went after W.'s beloved Scottish terrier, Barney, at Camp David's Laurel Lodge, that was a bridge too far.

When Cheney and Dave got back to their cabin, there was a knock at the door. "It was the camp commander," Cheney writes. "Mr. Vice President," he said, "your dog has been banned from Laurel." But on all the nefarious things that damaged America, Cheney got his way for far too long.

Vice gleefully predicted that his memoir would have "heads exploding all over Washington." But his book is a bore. He doesn't even mention how in high school he used to hold the water buckets to douse the fiery batons of his girlfriend Lynne, champion twirler.

At least Rummy's memoir showed some temperament. And George Tenet's was the primal scream of a bootlicker caught out. Mostly, Cheney grumbles about having his power checked. It's bad enough when the president does it, much less Congress and the courts. A person who is always for the use of military force is as doctrinaire and irrelevant as a person who is always opposed to the use of military force.

Cheney shows contempt for Tenet, Colin Powell and Rice, whom he disparages in a sexist way for crying, and condescension for W. when he won't be guided to the path of most destruction.

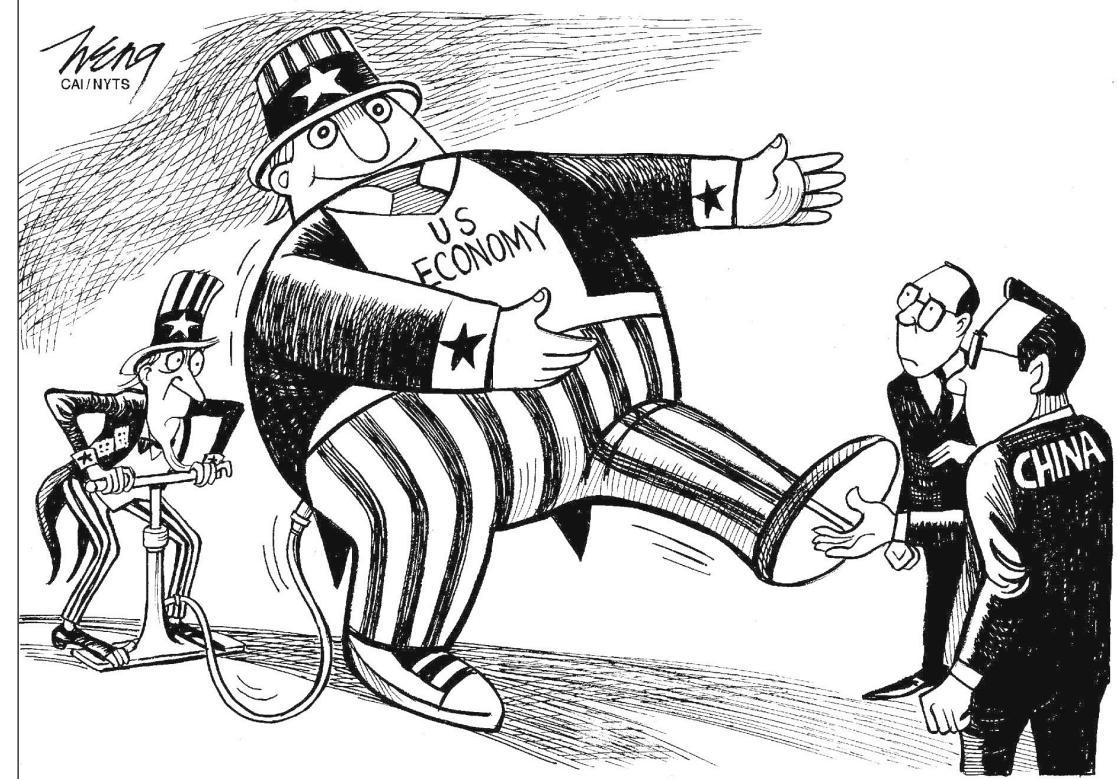
He's churlish about President Barack Obama, who took the hunt for Osama bin Laden off the back burner and actually did what W. promised to do with his little bullhorn — catch the real villain of 9/11.

"Tracking him down was certainly one of our top priorities," Cheney writes. "I was gratified that after years of diligent and dedicated work, our nation's intelligence community and our special operations forces were able on May 1, 2011, to find and kill bin Laden."

Tacky. Finishing the book with an account of the 2010 operation to put in a battery-operated pump that helps his heart push blood through his body, he recounts the prolonged, vivid dream about a beautiful place in Italy he had during the weeks he was unconscious.

"It was in the countryside, a little north of Rome, and it really seemed I was there," he writes. "I can still describe the villa where I passed the time, the little stone paths I walked to get coffee or a batch of newspapers."

Caesar and his cappuccino. □



Did we drop the ball on unemployment?



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

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YAMHILL, Ore. — When I'm in New York or Washington, people talk passionately about debt and political battles. But in the living rooms or on the front porches here in Yamhill, Ore., where I grew up, a different specter wakes friends up in the middle of the night.

It's unemployment.

I've spent a chunk of summer vacation visiting old friends here, and I can't help feeling that national politicians and national journalists alike have dropped the ball on jobs. Some 25 million Americans are unemployed or underemployed — that's more than 16 percent of the workforce — but jobs haven't been nearly high enough on the national agenda.

When Americans are polled about the issue they care most about, the answer by a 2-to-1 margin is jobs. The Boston Globe found that during President Barack Obama's Twitter "town hall" last month, the issue that the public most wanted to ask about was, by

far, jobs. Yet during the previous two weeks of White House news briefings, reporters were far more likely to ask about political warfare with Republicans.

(I'm an offender, too: I asked Obama a question at the Twitter town hall, and it was a gotcha query about his negotiations with Republicans. I'm sorry that I missed the chance to push him on the issue that Americans care most about.)

A study by National Journal in May found something similar: Newspaper articles about "unemployment" apparently fell over the last two years, while references to the "deficit" soared.

When I'm back on the family farm in Yamhill, our very closest neighbor is one of those 25 million. Terry Maggard worked on a crew detecting underground gas, electrical or cable lines, and after 15 years on the job he was earning \$20 an hour. Then at the outset of the recession in late 2008 his employer fired him and the other old-timers, and hired younger workers — who earned only \$9 or \$10 an hour.

Terry has been knocking on doors everywhere, including at McDonald's, but nobody wants a 56-year-old man. "The only call I got in two years was one asking if I could be a French chef," he recalled, laughing. "I said 'Oui.'"

"Mais non," the chef's job did not come through. So although Terry earns some money breeding Pomeranians, his wife is now the main income earner. She worries that her job at a community college may be in jeopardy as well, and their standard of living

has plummeted.

"It's been a 100 percent change in my lifestyle," Terry said. "I used to grill rib-eye steaks on the barbecue. Now I grill hot dogs. And I can't tell you the last time I went out for a meal."

My next neighbor beyond the Maggards is Elmer McKoon, 64, who used to work full time in construction, and more recently as a janitor.

His company slashed the staff in 2008, but a kind boss kept Elmer working one night a week so he could keep his health insurance.

Obama is saying the right things lately about creating jobs. But he is saying them far too meekly, and his jobs agenda seems anemic — while the Republican Congress is saying the wrong things altogether. There are no quick fixes to joblessness, but Washington could temporarily make federal money available to pay for teachers who are otherwise being laid off. We could increase spending on service programs like AmeriCorps that have far more applicants than spots.

We could extend the payroll tax cut, which expires at the end of December. Astonishingly, Republicans in Congress seem to be lined up instinctively against this basic economic stimulus. Could the Tea Party actually favor tax reductions for billionaires but not for working Americans? Could we have found a tax increase the Republican Party favors? Mr. Obama, with 25 million Americans hurting, will you fight — really fight! — to put jobs at the top of the national agenda? □

In Nevada, apathy and gloom before a special election

JENNIFER MEDINA

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RENO, Nev. – Do not come here expecting to find optimism. Unemployment in the state is at 13 percent, and foreclosure rates remain among the highest

two evils," said Susan Ramstad, a 59-year-old former health care worker.

A registered Democrat, she voted for President Barack Obama, but has grown increasingly disappointed with him.

nearly all of the state outside Las Vegas, and includes rural areas that have long been steady conservative strongholds. No Democrat has ever represented the district, and Republicans outnumber Democrats by

spent more than \$500,000 on the race and a conservative group said late last week that it would spend an additional \$150,000 on campaign commercials that tie Marshall to Obama, who is deeply unpopular here.

The fierce battle for the Republican nomination, meanwhile, is casting no shadow whatsoever on the race. None of the presidential contenders have come to campaign for Amodei – though Speaker John A. Boehner came in for a fundraiser this month – and neither Amodei nor Marshall has made the GOP contest a part of their message.

But Democrats say that Marshall could be the candidate to turn history around. If Republicans are not motivated to show up at the polls, she could be the beneficiary. Some say that the large amount of spending by Republicans is evidence of such a fear. But Democrats have not spent any outside money on the campaign so far, which many here see as a

strong candidate, and Marshall hasn't shown herself to be that strong."

Republicans are trying to frame the race as a referendum on the president and Democrats. Marshall has been more than willing to try to distance herself from both Obama and the party.

"With all respect to the president, if he has done a lot, he has done a poor job of explaining it," she said in an interview here. "He seems to be a day late and a dollar short on a lot of things." Her voice rises: "For the middle class in this country, where is he?"

She has played up her conservative bona fides, boasting of support from the National Rifle Association and saying she would have voted against the increase in the debt ceiling.

She has also repeatedly criticized Amodei for voting to raise the state tax in 2003, although every Democrat in the Legislature also supported the increase. Since then, Amodei has signed the no-new-tax pledge



Greg Bailor, a Nevada Republican Party field director, trains phone bank volunteers calling on behalf of Mark Amodei, the Republican candidate for Nevada's 2nd Congressional District, in Reno, Nev., Aug. 25, 2011. The upcoming special election to replace Dean Heller, who was appointed to the Senate after John Ensign resigned in April, is the first House special election in the state's history. (Max Whittaker/The New York Times)

in the country. Ask people about the future, and they speak of fear and dread. They may have come to the state with big dreams, but these days they are just trying to get by.

Ask them about the federal government, and that disillusion quickly gives way to contempt.

So it is not surprising that there is little interest in the coming special election in the state's 2nd Congressional District. The Democratic candidate, Kate Marshall, the state treasurer, has spent much of the campaign boasting about a jobs bill she wrote in the spring. The Republican, Mark Amodei, a former state senator and the state party chairman, has repeatedly criticized the stimulus and says that government should get out of the private sector's way.

But for many voters, the arguments sound like white noise. Few here have any hope that whoever they elect will be able to improve things for them.

"For me, it's just a lesser of

"It's gotten to the point where I don't believe anything," she said. "I'm terribly concerned about our economy and Medicare and Social Security, and I don't have the impression that anyone knows what to do about any of it."

The election to replace Dean Heller, who was appointed to the Senate after John Ensign resigned in the spring, is the first House special election in the state's history. In another time, it might have been the kind of race that inspired fierce debate and impassioned activism. Now, even as early voting began on Saturday, it evokes a mere shrug. Indeed, Ramstad's frustration and ambivalence were echoed again and again in interviews with more than two dozen voters here, in the largest city in the district.

"The question I get asked the most is, 'Why would you want to go back there?'" Amodei said. "People don't have a lot of trust in what is going on in Washington."

The district encompasses



Campaign workers put up a sign for Republican Congressional candidate Mark Amodei in Reno, Nev., Aug. 26, 2011. (Max Whittaker/The New York Times)

30,000 registered voters. Most polls show Amodei with a comfortable lead. But many here worry about turnout, saying they expect roughly 25 percent of registered voters to show up at the polls on Sept. 13. The National Republican Congressional Committee has

sign that they do not think Marshall can win.

"Nobody wants this to be seen as a test case that they fail," said Jon Ralston, a longtime political analyst in the state. "But the Democrats really have demographics against them. To win this would take a very

pushed by the activist Grover Norquist. Amodei sees the race as a harbinger. If he wins by a comfortable margin, he said, it will push the momentum in the 2012 Senate and presidential races, where Nevada is expected to be an important battleground. □